Hafa Adai!

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OPINION METER
This week's poll:

Now that he has resigned, do you think former AG Edward T. Buckingham will still return to the CNMI to face criminal charges filed against him?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

MAHARLIKA

Typhoon "Helen" is out but rains remain a threat to people living in low-lying and mountainous areas. The weather bureau asked the public to remain watchful of rains and winds brought by the storm-enhanced southwest monsoon.

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NATION

Republican presidential contender Mitt Romney declared Thursday he has paid at least 13 percent of his income in federal taxes every year for the past decade, offering that new detail while still decrying a "small-minded" fascination over returns he will not release.

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WORLD

He's won asylum in Ecuador, but Julian Assange is no closer to getting there.

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UNTIL STUDY IS DONE

Senate to Fitial: Cancel $190M power contract

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Senate formally asked Gov. Benigno R. Fitial yesterday afternoon to "cancel" the 25-year power purchase agreement that has a guaranteed price of $190 million, until a comprehensive economic analysis is made to determine the fiscal impact of the deal on the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and ratepayers.

But some lawmakers are also worried that if Saipan Development LLC has already signed the contract, a suit for breach of contract may be forthcoming.

By a vote of 7-0, the Senate adopted yesterday Senate Resolution 17-94, "objecting" to the "sole-source" PPA between CUC and Saipan Development LLC, which remains a mystery firm except to only a few including Fitial and former attorney general Edward T. Buckingham.

"This resolution asks the administra-

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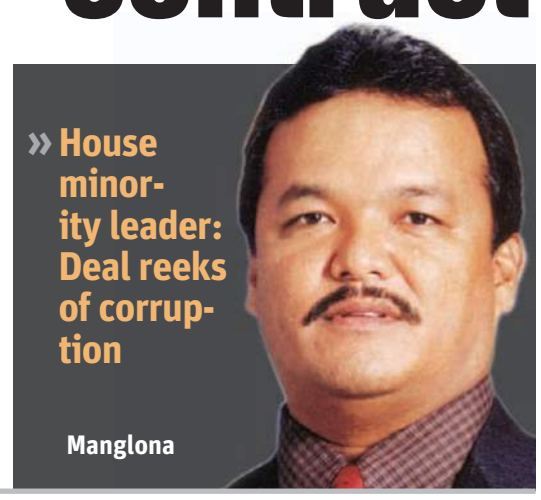

» House minority leader: Deal reeks of corruption

Manglona

ON VACATION

A family of tourists poses for a souvenir photo with the iconic Bird Island in the background yesterday morning. Tourist arrivals to the CNMI totaled 28,193 in May, a 20-percent increase from 23,451 during the same month last year, based on the latest data from the Marianas Visitors Authority. The increase was buoyed by additional Asiana Airlines flights during Golden Week, among other things, MVA says.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

16.3K voters so far register for mid-term elections

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Election Commission so far recorded more than 16,000 voters registered for this year's mid-term elections, based on the agency's website as of Aug. 13.

RELATED NEWS
➤ Fast Senate confirmation of 4 appointees to Election Commission. PAGE 4

Total registered voters on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota is 16,365 as of Monday, of which Saipan posted the highest number of registered voters at 13,386. Tinian recorded 1,405 voters,

See VOTERS on Page 4

Masked man stages broad daylight robbery in Koblerville

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A masked man armed with a knife staged a broad daylight robbery at an establishment in Koblerville on Thursday, police said.

Department of Public Safety information officer Jason T. Tarkong said the suspect, described as about 5'7" tall and 160 lbs, was able to run away with $150 cash.

Tarkong said no one was reported injured.

Police officers on Thursday at 2:48pm responded to a 911 call from Shear Magic Beauty Salon and Western Union located by KB Store where a robbery reportedly happened.

The suspect, wearing a black mask and black clothing, entered the establishment and pointed a knife at two female employees.

The suspect grabbed a metal cash box and ran into the parking lot where he then jumped into the rear passenger side of a getaway vehicle.

The vehicle sped off west on Koblerville road toward San Antonio area.

Tarkong said the getaway vehicle was described as a fully tinted white Toyota Matrix four-door sedan.

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Faris remands Fund's suits vs CNMI govt, Fitial, and CUC. PAGE 2
Kilili: 3 more village police cars funded. PAGE 3

Local

Faris remands Fund's suits vs CNMI govt, Fitial, and CUC

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Bankruptcy Division designated judge Robert J. Faris has remanded to the Superior Court the NMI Retirement Fund's lawsuits against the CNMI government and Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, and against Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

As this developed, Faris also dismissed the Fund's lawsuits against different CNMI government agencies over their alleged failure to remit payments.

In separate orders issued on Thursday, Faris cited the dismissal of the underlying Fund's Chapter 11 bankruptcy case in remanding the Fund's lawsuits against the CNMI government, Fitial, and CUC.

» Judge also dismisses Fund's lawsuits vs different CNMI govt agencies

In separate orders also issued on Thursday, Faris dismissed without prejudice the Fund's lawsuits against different CNMI government agencies. In dismissing the cases, the judge cited the same reason—the dismissal of the Fund's bankruptcy case.

After the filing of bankruptcy case, the Fund removed from Superior Court to the U.S. District Court for the NMI Bankruptcy Division its separate lawsuits against the CNMI government and Fitial, and CUC.

With the filing of bankruptcy case, the Fund then also filed separate lawsuits against CNMI government agencies in federal court's Bankruptcy Division.

The Fund filed the lawsuit in 2006 against the government, Fitial, the Department of Finance, and then Finance Secretary Eloy S. Inos over the government's failure to remit required payments.

In June 2009, Govendo ruled that the government owes the Fund $231.6 million in damages and that the law suspending government contributions to the Fund is unconstitutional.

In February 2011, the damages of the Fund reportedly increased to $317 million from the original $231 million.

In May 2011, the Fund filed the lawsuit against CUC in Superior Court for alleged failure to pay a total of $4.4 million in employer contributions, penalties, and economic damages. The lawsuit is pending in Superior Court.

With respect to the Fund's lawsuits against CNMI government agencies, in the first complaint the Fund named as defendants Commonwealth Government Credit Union, CNMI government, and Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson.

In the other complaint, named as defendants are the Public School System, Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Board of Education secretary and treasurer Galvin S. Deleon Guerrero, BOE members MaryLou S. Ada, D. Tanya King, Lucia Blanco-Maratita, and Herman T. Guerrero.

The third complaint named the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation as the sole defendant.

The fourth complaint named as defendants Northern Marianas College, NMC president Sharon Y. Hart, NMC treasurer Frank Rabauliman, and Board of Regents members Juan T. Lizama, Elaine Hocog Orilla, Andrew Orsini, Maria T. Peter, and William S. Torres.

The fifth complaint named the CNMI government and Finance Secretary Larson as the defendants.

Air Force, Navy to conduct training at FDM, WA 517

SANTA RITA, Guam—The U.S. Navy will conduct training at W-517 on Aug. 22-23 from 8am to 5pm

The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on Aug 23 from 9am to 5pm.

The general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides access frequency that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon provides sufficient room for the many different attack profiles necessary to replicate training opportunities in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises.

This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. W-517 is contained within the following coordinates: 13° 10"N/144° 30"E, 13° 10"N/144° 42"E, 12° 50"N/144° 45"E, 11° 00"N/144° 45"E, 11° 00"N/143° 00"E, 11° 45"N/143° 00"E, 12° 50"N/144° 30"E.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-4055/3209. ***(PR)***

MVA to join Brand USA at 2012 JATA tourism forum

As a highlight to its annual appearance at Japan's largest travel show, the Marianas Visitors Authority will join efforts with Brand USA next month at the 2012 Japan Association of Travel Agents (JATA) Tourism Forum and Travel Showcase.

The travel show will be held on Sept. 21-23, 2012, at Tokyo Big Site and is expected to attract tens of thousands of travel professionals, media, and potential travelers. This year, the MVA's booth will be located with Brand USA, the first-ever public-private partnership to promote the United States as a premiere travel destination.

"Each year the MVA participates in JATA, as the top travel show in our primary tourism market," said Marianas Visitors Authority Marketing Manager Bruce Bateman. "This year, we have the added advantage of Brand USA also promoting Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. In fact, the Brand USA promotions in Japan and Korea will now include the Northern Marianas, and we expect to benefit from the on-going, large-scale Brand USA promotions during the coming years."

In addition to informational material, the MVA booth will include four local artists, magician Chris Zubrick from SandCastle Saipan, an appearance by Saipan-da!, and giveaways.

MVA members interested in displaying products or brochures at JATA may contact Brenda Repeki or Hiroko Tenorio of the MVA at 670.664.3200/3201.

Brand USA is funded by up to $100 million in private sector investment matched by up to $100 million annually from funds generated by the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) VISA Waiver program.

The Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are a chain of idyllic islands in the West Pacific, offering a friendly, fun, and exciting vacation in paradise. They are an excellent destination for families, adventure and sports-minded travelers, as well as business people looking for a tropical haven. Adventurous travelers from Asia, Australia, Europe, and elsewhere looking for new travel discoveries will find them in the Mariana Islands, just three hours travel from most cities in Japan, and four from Asia and Australia. The Northern Marianas are served from Tokyo, Nagoya, and Osaka in Japan by Delta Air Lines and Asiana Airlines. From Korea, Asiana provides direct flights

from Seoul and Busan. For more information visit www.mymarianas.com. ***(MVA)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Statewide Independent Living Council
"Yes I Can!"
P.O. BOX 501521, SAIPAN, MP 95950; TEL: (670) 322-6537/8 FAX: (670) 322-6536
TTY: (670) 322-6449; E-MAIL: nmidir@ovrgov.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the public is advised that the Statewide Independent Living Council will hold its FY 2012 Fourth General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, August 21, 2012 at the Fleming Corporation, Tinian from 9:00am-2:00pm. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

I. Welcome New Members - Roll Call
II. Adoption of Agenda
III. Review and adoption of June 14, 2012 Minutes
IV. Reports
- OVR Director
- SILC Chairman
- CIL Director

V. Old Business
- Review membership composition

VI. New Business
- Update for New SILC Members
- Review & Plan for the 2014 State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL)
- 2013 SILC Congress Updates
- FY 2013 NDEAM
- FY 2013 SILC Resource Plan
- Election of New Officers

VII. Consumer Forum
VIII. Announcements/Miscellaneous
IX. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters, are asked to call 322-6537(voice) or 322-6449(TTY). Please contact Elvira Seman (Council Liaison) two days in advance for necessary arrangements.

/s/ Stephen Dutro
SILC Chairperson

Publication of this notice is paid for by federal funds made possible by the United States Department of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS).

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority, hereby gives notice that a **Regular Board of Directors Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, August 22, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.** at the MVA Conference Room San Jose Professional Building Saipan, MP 96950.

MEETING AGENDA

1) Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes – June 19, 2012 & June 23, 2012

2) Public Comments
3) Committee Reports
1. Finance
2. Personnel

4) Old Business
1. KSPN, LLC contract for ratification
2. Contracts for Renewal:
   a. Integrity Communications
   b. G4S Security
   c. Happy Children In Paradise Campaign Backpacks
3. Contracts for Discussion:
   a. CMI – Mt. Tapochao
   b. Legal Counsel RFP
   c. XTERRA/Tagaman RFP

5) New Business
   a. Election of Officers
   b. JATA
   c. International Travel Fair
   d. Russia Charter Flights
   e. Micronesia Cruise Association
   f. Signboard update
   g. Regular Board Meeting Schedule

6) Miscellaneous/Announcements
1. Upcoming Events:
   a. Korea Familiarization Tour

7) Executive Session
8) Adjournment

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
Chairperson, MVA Board of Directors

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK, Plaintiff,	]	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 97-1054**
-v-	]	**EIGHTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE**
JUAN R SABLAN and ANGELINE F. SABLAN, Defendants.	]	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on November 10, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Real property situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, designated as Lot E.A. 839 NEW-6-3, containing an area of 1,329 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. E.A. 839 NEW.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, August 24, 2012, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 25th day of July, 2012:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

Kilili: 3 more village police cars funded

Department of Public Safety officers will soon be receiving three new patrol vehicles, according to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan.

The congressman received word Thursday that Interior Assistant Secretary Anthony Babauta has signed off on a grant of $136,000 for the police cars. The award is in addition to a grant of about $80,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced in July, bringing the total of new DPS vehicles to five. Sablan worked with DPS officials on finding the funding.

Babauta also Thursday awarded $10,000 in seed money to the Nurturing Transformative & Sustainable Communities, or NUTESE, program to help establish a 24-hour sexual assault crisis hotline.

"Today's Technical Assistance Program grants will provide support for one of the most critical needs in the Northern Marianas, public safety," Babauta said.

"I appreciate that the Office of Insular Affairs continues to have the resources we need to help the Northern Marianas, as well as Guam, American Samoa, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, because of the strong voice and hard work of Congressman Sablan and his territorial colleagues in the U.S. Congress."

Insular Affairs also recently used Technical Assistance Program funds for a $20,000 grant to the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence and a $10,000 grant to the Public School System's Parent, Teacher & Student Association.

"I am very glad to have been able to work in cooperation with each of these community groups and government agencies to bring this federal funding home to the Northern Marianas," Congressman Sablan said.

"This money will help us tackle the issues we all care about: improving education, making our communities safer, and responding to the problem of domestic violence.

"I am also very glad to have good partners at the Department of the Interior, and thank Assistant Secretary Babauta and his staff for their support and their understanding of these critical needs in our islands."

In addition to the three new patrol vehicles, yesterday's $136,000 grant will also purchase 100,000-mile maintenance packages to keep the vehicles running.

"Patrolling our villages and being always on call to respond to accidents and other emergencies means that DPS pushes its vehicles to the limit, often operating them around the clock.

"At the same time there is very little local funding for maintenance and repair. So we burn through these cars quickly.

"My hope is that buying the maintenance packages together with the patrol cars will keep them in good condition longer, so our DPS officers have the tools they need to do their job," Sablan said.

$30K addresses domestic and sexual violence

The $10,000 grant to NUTESE will be used to set up a 24-hour sexual and domestic assault hotline. The Nurturing Transformative & Sustainable Communities program provides crisis counseling, information, and referral services to victims and survivors of assault and to their friends, family members and significant others.

The grant also reinforces last month's award of $20,000 in Technical Assistance Program funds to the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence. Those monies will enable the establishment of a batterer's intervention program, "Chechu La'lahe," or "Men's Work."

"In addition to the Coalition, I was also advised by the judiciary that we needed a treatment program for batterers," Sablan explained.

"Right now, anger management is all there is available. Chechu La'lahe will provide another means of rehabilitation for the Courts to use."

Parent, Teacher, and Student Association gets grant

The Public School System's Parent, Teacher, and Student Association is another recent Technical Assistance grant awardee. A $10,000 grant to PTSA is aimed at increasing parents' participation in their children's education as required by Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

"You could say it's Parents First, when it comes to education," Sablan said. "Parents are the first educators of their children. And when kids start their formal schooling parents need to stay involved and work in partnership with the school system to ensure their children succeed.

"This funding will enable PTSA leaders to meet that goal."

The grant monies will go toward educating parent leaders on Rota, Tinian, and Saipan, about the role of parents in meeting Title I goals. School personnel will also gain new tools, technical assistance, and support in the implementation of Title I programs.

The grant announcements bring to seven the number of recent Technical Assistance Program awards for the Northern Mariana Islands for a total of over $271,000.

In addition to the awards for DPS, NUTESE, the Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence, and the PTSA, the Office of Insular Affairs previously awarded $75,000 to the Marianas Visitors Authority, $10,000 to the Northern Marianas Humanities Council, and $10,000 to the Northern Mariana Islands Museum of History and Culture.

"I have made it a priority to help our community get more federal funding," said Sablan.

"So the congressional office has brought federal agencies that have money together with local groups that need funding. And we have also helped local individuals, non-profits, and government offices get better at finding federal funds themselves and better at applying for grants.

"I applaud all of those who worked hard to put together these winning applications, which ultimately benefit each and every one of us. And, again, I thank Assistant Secretary Babauta and his staff for recognizing the value and importance of these Technical Assistance Program funds to the well-being of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands." ***(PR)***

12 months for man who beat up CK store cashier, 2 customers

A man who was among five persons accused in the beating of a female cashier and two men at a store in Chalan Kanoa was slapped with a one-year jail term.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman in a written decision issued yesterday ordered Anson Sansi to serve the sentence without parole.

Wiseman gave the 25-year-old Sansi credit for the two months and 27 days he already served in jail.

» Defendant was 1 of 5 defendants in beating case

Sansi was ordered to start serving the jail term at the Department of Corrections yesterday at 8am. He is expected to be released on May 21, 2013 at 8am.

After completing the jail term, the defendant will be placed on probation for two years.

The judge ordered Sansi to pay a $250 fine, $25 court assessment fee, plus probation fee.

Wiseman required the defendant to pay his pro rata share of restitution to the victims in an amount that will be determined by the court after the Office of the Attorney General submits the restitution report.

Wiseman said although it is Sansi's first crime of record, the court cannot, however, excuse or minimize the seriousness of participating in a crime of such a brutal and unprovoked attack on the cashier.

The judge said Sansi did not even try to stop the attack on the cashier.

"The court has taken into consideration the arguments of counsel, defendant's stated remorse and the family situation of his children whose mother is serving a two-year sentence. The court also notes that he has no criminal history," Wiseman said.

In April 2012, the jury found Sansi not guilty of aggravated assault and battery, and two counts of assault with a dangerous weapon.

Wiseman, who decided on misdemeanor charges, found Sansi guilty of two counts of assault and battery, and two counts of disturbing the peace.

The maximum sentence for assault and battery is one year and or up to a $1,000 fine. The maximum sentence for disturbing the peace is six months and or up to a $500 fine.

The Office of Adult Probation recommended a sentence of six months in prison.

Assistant attorney general Nicole Driscoll recommended a sentence of two years in jail. Court-appointed defense counsel Joaquin Torres requested a sentence of six months in prison.

The court found that the defendants went into Dhaka Store where the victim Xiaoping Tudela was a cashier in the morning of Aug. 8, 2011.

When a police officer arrived at the store, Tudela was found lying in a pool of blood.

Police said the five suspects beat up the cashier when the victim confronted one of them, Cheroleen Ray, for slamming the phone on its console.

Police said Ray also beat up Mohammed A. Bashar, who was in the store.

A detective said Sansi beat up and threw a can of soda on a male customer, who was trying to stop the suspects from beating Tudela.

Defendants Ray and Mark Rudolph entered a guilty plea. The jury found defendants Arinna A. Reiong and Norna Tipingeni guilty of aggravated assault and battery, while Wiseman found them guilty of one count each for assault and battery, and disturbing the peace. All defendants were subsequently sentenced. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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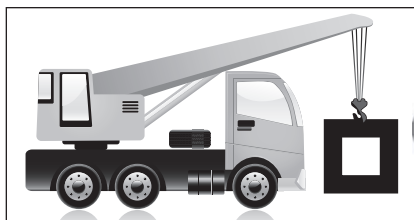
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This program was supported by Grant Number TA-CNMI-2011-5 awarded to the CNMI Department of Commerce by the U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Insular Areas, and sub-granted by the CNMI Department of Commerce's TA Program Manager. Point of view or opinions contained within this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs, or the CNMI Department of Commerce's TA Sub-grant Panel.

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Regents unaware of management's plan to relocate library archives

Members of the Board of Regents expressed their surprise yesterday when they learned about the planned transfer of the Northern Marianas College archives out of campus, an issue they admitted was not brought to their attention for action.

Regents William Torres and Malua Peter revealed this during the continuation of the board meeting yesterday where they claimed that it was only during Thursday's board meeting that they were made aware of the management's "relocation plan" for the college archives.

Peter admitted that the program committee which she chaired first heard about the "plan" from the "streets" and there was no official information or communication received from NMC president Sharon Y. Hart.

"We [committee members] learned that almost everything is ready to be transferred…and I can say that it wasn't brought to the committee for deliberation," she told the board during yesterday's meeting on campus.

It was last Thursday when two former archivists of the college—Herbert Del Rosario and John Cook—brought to the attention of the board management's relocation plan for the library archives. Both opposed the planned transfer and appealed to the board during the meeting's public comment.

Torres, for his part, also noticed the board's lack of information from management pertaining to some issues and plans for the institution.

"For some reason, I guess there seems to be more information [we get] out there in the community than here [inside the college]," he said, asking NMC president Hart to submit specific information regarding the disclosed relocation plan for the archives so the board would be properly informed about the issue.

Board of Regents acting chair Elaine Orilla emphasized yesterday that the "board has not taken a position" on this relocation plan and is in the process of still gathering information after this which was just disclosed during the meeting.

The board is the policy-making decision body for NMC and issues like relocation or transfer of some programs at the college need the board's approval.

Hart, meantime, described the issue about the archive relocation plan as mere "information-sharing" within the college community.

"The college does not come forward to the board [for action] … because everything now is only information that we're sharing," said Hart yesterday.

Saipan Tribune learned that the CNMI Archives has over 500 reels of microfilm pertaining to the CNMI Constitution, the Covenant negotiations, and public laws enacted from 1978 to 2007. The collection also includes 3,000 reels of microfilm from the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands government, records of the Spanish colonial government from 1678 to 1899, and over 139 reels of microfilm courtesy of the Australian Archives pertaining to the military administration of the German New Guinea possessions from 1914 to 1923. ***(Moneth G. Deposa)***

Fast Senate confirmation of 4 appointees to Election Commission

The Senate confirmed yesterday four governor's appointees to the Commonwealth Election Commission, averting what commission executive director Robert A. Guerrero earlier said could be a "tremendous delay" in this year's election process because of a non-functioning election board resulting from a lack of quorum.

Senators confirmed the reappointment of Donald Hofschneider representing Tinian and the appointments of Leilani I. Manglona from Rota, Juan E. Santos Jr. from Tinian, and Trinidad L. Rabauliman from Saipan.

The four were confirmed as a result of the Senate's 7-0 vote on two separate reports from the Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigations Committee recommending that members of the full Senate give their advice and consent to the appointments.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), chair of the EAGI Committee, said "because of the urgency of the matter" and a request from the Commission, the panel did forego public hearing on the nominations.

Two of the nominations—those of Manglona and Santos—were submitted to the Senate only yesterday and the Senate EAGI Committee conducted a quick review to come up with a recommendation to the full Senate.

"If absentee ballots do not come back on time, they won't be counted. The EAGI Committee does not want to deprive these voters of their right to vote. That's why this was done expeditiously but with conditions," Cruz told reporters.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial appointed Hofschneider on Aug. 9, when he fired former commissioner Joe Kiyoshi citing constitutional issues. Kiyoshi's termination left the commission without a quorum.

But instead of just confirming one to ensure the board has a quorum, the Senate went ahead to confirm three other nominees.

The senators confirmed the nominees without receiving their drug test results and other requirements. But the Senate said if the drug test results for any of the nominees turn out to be positive, or they failed to submit all documents, their confirmation will be automatically rescinded.

Guerrero reiterated yesterday his request to the Senate to confirm nominees to the commission because a continuing lack of quorum would mean automatic certification of candidates and legislative initiatives 45 days before the elections or on Sept. 22.

The election board's lack of quorum will also push back the sending of absentee ballots and the printing of the official ballots.

Absentee ballots cannot be sent without being certified by the board. The election board will begin accepting requests for absentee ballots on Aug. 23. These ballots are usually sent to absentee voters upon receipt of their request. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

VOTERS

From Page 1

while Rota so far has 1,574.

This week's voters' statistics show a slight increase from last month which recorded 16,114 registered voters from the three islands.

For Saipan's district 1, total registered voters is 4,409 comprised of the following: 826 in San Antonio; 2,532 in San Vicente; and 1,051 in Koblerville.

For district 2, which covers Chalan Kanoa and Susupe areas, registered voters totaled 1,352 as of Monday. For district 3, the election commission noted 3,335 voters of which 2,442 hail from Garapan and 893 live in Oleai.

The four areas in district 4 recorded 1,730 total registered voters so far including Tanapag with 619 voters, San Roque with 572, Capitol Hill with 412, and Northern Islands with 127.

For district 5 which covers areas and villages in Kagman, total registered voters so far is 2,530.

Meantime, Tinian recorded 1,405 total registered voters to date, while Rota posted 1,574 registered voters.

According to election commission executive director Robert A. Guerrero, the agency also posted so far 4,675 in the Northern Marianas Descent Registry to date. He stressed that only those NMDs who are eligible to vote on Nov. 6 can be added to the voters' statistics of the agency.

Under election law, individuals who wish to vote for the mid-term elections have until 60 days to register before the election day, or until Sept. 7.

Guerrero said the agency is planning to do a weekly update on the voters' statistics which can be found in the agency's website (www.votecnmi.gov.mp). In preparation for the elections on Nov. 6, he said the election commission will print 17,500 ballots including those for absentee voters.

The CNMI mid-term elections is set on Nov. 6 this year where 20 seats in the House of Representatives; three seats in the Senate; three seats for Board of Education; all positions at the municipal councils; and one position for U.S. delegate to U.S. Congress are up for grabs.

The election commission said a total of 78 filed petitions for candidacy but these have not been yet certified to date as official candidates because the election commission board lost its quorum last week.

ROBBERY

From Page 1

Tarkong said the car's license plate was blocked with a piece of cardboard.

"Anyone with information can call DPS at 911. Should you want to remain anonymous, call the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272 or use our website at www.nmicrimestoppers.net," said Tarkong, who is also coordinator for Crime Stoppers Program.

Last July 19, a masked man armed with a machete robbed MCM2 Poker Game Room located behind San Jose Mart in San Jose.

No one was reported injured but the suspect managed to run away with over $10,000 cash, police said.

SENATE

From Page 1

tion to hold off further action on the contract until there's proper study," Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) said.

House minority leader Joe Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan), in an interview yesterday, said the minority bloc is expected to pre-file a similar resolution, although they might ask Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos as acting governor, instead of Fitial, to "cancel" the contract.

Inos has already requested an independent full economic analysis on the matter. Inos was not informed by Fitial that a 25-year contract was about to be signed or was already signed.

The acting governor knew about the signed contract only after it was reported in the media this week.

'Reeks of corruption'

Deleon Guerrero said he deems Saipan Development LLC as only a "broker."

"They are getting this contract and getting a guaranteed price. They can secure a loan, and pay somebody to do it [perform contract requirements]. That's a possibility with this kind of arrangement," Deleon Guerrero said in an interview at his office yesterday.

He said the CNMI or CUC built power plants in the past but it went directly to the manufacturers. "So how is it in the best interest of the CNMI to execute a contract with a middleman?" he asked.

"The way this contract was crafted and the manner in which it was executed reeks of corruption," Deleon Guerrero said.

Fitial and Buckingham signed off on the contract on Aug. 3, a day before Buckingham left the CNMI with the help of armed police and ports police officers.

Fitial is currently on a three-week off-island trip and is not expected to be back at least until Sept. 4.

Sen. Juan Ayuyu (Ind-Rota), chair of the Senate Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications, separately said yesterday there are a lot of unanswered questions about the contract, that even CUC could not provide the answers.

"The $190-million contract is not stipulated in the governor's emergency order. Having that contract does not address the emergency situation now," he said.

'Under the guise of state of emergency'

The four-page Senate resolution says it is impossible to support the PPA "which was executed by circumventing procurement laws, CUC, and PUC [Public Utilities Commission] laws and regulations, and under the guise of 'state of emergency' at CUC in order to implement renewable energy projects."

Prior to the execution of the PPA, Fitial issued executive orders stating that a renewable energy crisis exists at CUC and that "CUC has gone through the RFP process for several renewable energy projects which would bring some relief to high utility rates."

Fitial's EO's said these renewable energy contracts must be brought to completion as soon as possible or customers will continue to suffer from high oil prices.

But the Senate said Fitial's emergency orders were instead used to execute a "diesel" PPA.

Diesel PPA, the Senate said, has placed CUC in anticipatory breach of its agreements to award contracts to those renewable energy proposers, including KUTh Energy which responded to an RFP and followed the procurement rules and submitted winning proposals intended to benefit the CNMI and lower the cost of electricity.

"In fact, none of the Executive Orders previously executed by Governor Benigno R. Fitial, especially the Executive Order dated July 16, 2012, which the Governor used as authority to execute the PPA for CUC, expressed any emergency situation at CUC that warranted executing a sole-source 25-year fixed payment diesel PPA without the proper review and procurement process," the Senate said.

Under the PPA, CUC will pay Saipan Development LLC "300 consecutive, equal monthly installments of $636,091."

Three hundred months is equivalent to 25 years. If the monthly payment is $636,091, then the yearly payment is $7.63 million. That is equivalent to $190.8 million in 25 years.

Payment of the guaranteed price also "is not subject to alteration, adjustment, setoff, counterclaim, abatement, or Force Majeure."

In addition to the guaranteed price, CUC shall pay Saipan Development LLC an operations and maintenance fee of 0.0191 per plant-produced kWh per month.

CUC shall also pay a production fee of .0153 cents per plant-produced kWh to cover the costs of lubricant oils consumables and spare parts.

All these were also enumerated in Senate Resolution 17-94, signed by the seven senators present during yesterday's session. The only ones absent were Sen. Luis Crisostimo (Ind-Saipan) and Sen. Henry San Nicolas (Cov-Tinian).

Still little is known

The Senate PUTC Committee held a committee hearing on Thursday afternoon to probe the sole-source contract. The panel invited acting CUC executive director Alan Fletcher and acting attorney general Viola Alepuyo, who declined the invitation and did not allow any assistant attorney general to attend.

"At the PUTC meeting, it was disclosed that there was no comprehensive economic analysis of the PPA terms and conditions conducted to determine whether or not the PPA is in the best interest of CUC and whether the PPA will result in lower power rates for the ratepayers," the Senate said.

Little is also known about Saipan Development LLC, the power producer guaranteed to receive $190.8 million in a 25-year period pursuant to the PPA.

Saipan Development LLC and the CNMI executed a Power Plant Development and Management Agreement dated March 27, 2012.

That was barely five days after Saipan Development LLC was incorporated in Delaware on March 22, 2012, based on the state's Division of Corporations records. There is no information yet as to Saipan Development LLC's local partners or representatives.

Besides Inos' request for a full economic analysis of the PPA, the Senate PUTC Committee, the House PUTC Committee, the House Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee, and the Office of the Attorney General are also looking into the contract.

House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) wants to know whether the PPA is a form of public indebtedness that under the constitution requires the Legislature's approval.

NMC hires new business department head

Green

Hunter

Merar

Deleon Guerrero

Nikolaychuk

Foels

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Northern Marianas College has successfully recruited a new chairperson for its business department while six other faculty members joined institution beginning this new semester.

NMC dean of academic programs and services Barbara Merfalen disclosed in a statement yesterday that all these new hires have extensive professional backgrounds and strong educational credentials who will make excellent additions to an already dynamic team of instructors at NMC.

The institution has named Chavel Green as its new business department head where she will manage the department's programs and resources. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Technology in Jamaica and her master's degree from Nova Southeastern University.

Green is currently pursuing her doctorate degree in business administration through the University of Phoenix's online program. Prior to becoming chair of the NMC business department, Green served as the head of the Business and Finance Department at the University College of the Caribbean and had also taught as an adjunct faculty at the Vocational Training Development Institute and the International University of the Caribbean. Green replaces Dr. John Griffin after the former retired last year.

Among the new additions to the NMC faculty this semester include Barbara Hunter who has been named an instructor in the business department. She earned her bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and her master's degree in education from San Diego State University. Prior to becoming a full-time business instructor, Hunter worked as the acting human resource manager at NMC and also taught several educational and business-related courses.

Roland Merar has been named the rehabilitation and human services instructor at the School of Education. He earned his bachelor's degree in secondary education and physical education from the University of Guam and his master's degree in educational leadership from San Diego State University. Prior to joining the School of Education, Merar had taught classes as an instructor at the college's Sciences, Math, Health and Athletics Department.

NMC also named Cynthia Deleon Guerrero as the early childhood education instructor at the School of Education. Deleon Guerrero earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education from NMC and her master's degree from Framingham State College. Prior to becoming an instructor at the School of Education, she had served as the College's Office of Admissions and Records (OAR) director and the School of Education director.

» 6 new faculty members on-board beginning this semester

Deleon Guerrero also worked as a vice principal, counselor, and teacher for the CNMI Public School System.

Alexander Nikolaychuk has been named as a math instructor in the Sciences, Math, Health and Athletics Department. He had earned his bachelor's and master's degrees—both in mathematics—from Portland State University. Prior to joining NMC, Nikolaychuk worked as a math instructor at the College of the Marshall Islands, Windward Community College in Hawaii, and at the Los Angeles Mission College. He had also taught as an adjunct instructor at Woodbury University and at the College of the Canyons.

Eugene Foels joined NMC earlier this year as an instructor in the Social Sciences Department. He earned his bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Houston and his master's degree in American History from State University of New York. Before joining NMC, Foels taught at South Fort Myers High School in Florida and North Tonawanda High School in New York.

The college also recently named Richard Waldo as a business and accounting instructor at the Business Department. Waldo earned his bachelor's degree in political science from the University of California-Santa Barbara, and his master's degree in business administration from the University of California Los Angeles. Waldo had worked as an NMC adjunct instructor for several years, having taught accounting, economics, and other courses. Most recently, he worked as the Public School System's director of finance.

NMC, in a statement yesterday, said it is completing the hiring for other positions at the college and will be naming new faculty members in the next several days.

"This is very exciting for the college. Our new faculty members all have extensive professional backgrounds and strong educational credentials and will make excellent additions to an already dynamic team of instructors at NMC," said Merfalen.

The college's hiring procedures involve the participation of staff and faculty during the interview process for vacant positions. An interview committee, usually composed of three college employees, screens the applicants and then makes a recommendation to the division head. For instructor positions, Merfalen, as the dean of Academic Programs and Services, is the final hiring authority and is responsible for the ultimate selection of any applicant.

Taimanao, Ogumoro guests in today's *Marianas Agupa*

Marianas Agupa will feature Sen. Jovita Taimanao and vice speaker Felicidad Ogumoro in today's broadcast and the two lawmakers will talk about issues affecting women. The show starts at 9am and ends at 11am on Magic 100.3 FM.

Listeners on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota and those listening via streaming are encouraged to call in and ask questions during the show. Direct to studio at 234-5929 or use *Marianas Agupa* Facebook account via instant messaging.

The Chamorro Radio Talk Show Program is hosted by Glenn H. Manglona. Featured reports are as follows: World report and program review by former mayor Joseph S. Inos and a report from Rota with correspondent and commentator Thomas D. Mendiola, a special segment called Hafa Mohon with Juanita Mendiola, and a report from Tinian by correspondent and radio commentator with former senator David M. Cing. Simultaneous internet via www.magic100radio.com will be available. ***(PR)***

WELCOME TO THE CHRISTIAN WORLD

Happy Christening to our Dinga Zanicia and Zavier Pangelinan Limes on Aug. 18, 2012. Greetings from Mommy Regina P. Limes and the Laluso Famz.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

TO PROMOTE PEACE IN SCARBOROUGH SHOAL

CNMI and Guam to take part in Global Day of Prayer

The US Pinoys for Good Governance (USP4GG), led by its national chair Loida Nicolas Lewis, national president Rodel Rodis, and spokesperson and legal counsel Ted Laguatan, has organized the Global Day of Prayer for Peace in the Scarborough Shoal on Aug. 21, 2012.

USP4GG said the Global Day of Prayer will be observed all over the United States, Canada, the CNMI, Guam, Australia, New Zealand, Asia, Philippines, and other countries to ask "divine assistance in the peaceful and just resolution of the dispute over Scarborough Shoal between China and the Philippines."

On this day, the group will also be commemorating the 29th death anniversary of Ninoy Aquino.

Dr. Celia B. Lamkin, USP4GG Marianas Chapter chair and USP4GG Region IX Coordinator for the CNMI, Guam, and Hawaii, has coordinated and offered Holy Masses at numerous Catholic churches in the CNMI, Guam, and Hawaii and prayer meetings at the Christian churches in the CNMI with the following intention—Global Day of Prayer for Peace in the Scarborough Shoal; commemoration of the 29th death anniversary of Ninoy Aquino; and prayers for the people of the Philippines who have experienced and are still experiencing terrible flooding and that the government as well as aid organizations may quickly come to ease their suffering.

In the CNMI, the schedule of Holy Mass and Prayer Meetings on Aug. 21 are as follows:

■ Holy Mass at Mt. Carmel Cathedral, 6am
Chakan Kanoa, Saipan

■ Holy Mass at San Antonio Church, 6pm
San Antonio, Saipan

■ Holy Mass at San Jose Church, 6am
San Jose, Saipan

■ Holy Mass at San Vicente Church, 6pm
San Vicente, Saipan

■ Holy Mass at San Roque Church, 6pm
San Roque, Saipan

■ Holy Mass at Kristo Rai Church, 6am
Garapan, Saipan

■ Holy Mass at Saint Jude Church, 6pm
Koblerville, Saipan

■ Holy Mass at San Francisco de Borja, 6am
Songsong Village, Rota

■ Holy Mass at San Jose Church, 6am
San Jose Village, Tinian

■ Prayer meeting at Chinese Christian Church,
Gualo Rai, Saipan

■ Prayer meeting at Blessed Temple Christian Fellowship
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

In Guam, the USP4GG Marianas Chapter and Laguna Association of Guam, headed by president Nancy Baldoz, in collaboration with the Filipino Community of Guam, led by president Leah Beth Naholowaa, have organized a prayer forum in Aug. 21 that will be held at the Blue Magic Flowers Shop, Copy Express Bldg. (next to Tamuning Post Office) , Tamuning after the 7pm Holy Mass at Saint Anthony Church, Tamuning. Guest speakers have been invited and activities have been prepared for this event. Holy Masses will be offered, with the same intentions above, at St. Anthony Church,Tamuning (5:30am, 7:20am, and 7pm) and at the Santa Barbara Church, Dededo (6am, 11:30am, and 7om).

On Hawaii, the schedule of Holy Masses is the following:

■ Holy Mass at St. Augustine By-The-Sea Church, 5pm
130 Ohua Ave. Honolulu, Hawaii (across Waikiki Beach)

■ Holy Mass at the Cathedral of our Lady of Peace, 12pm
1184 Bishop Street
Honolulu, Hawaii

■ Holy Mass at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 7am and 12pm
800 Kaheka St. Honolulu, Hawaii

■ Holy Mass at Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary Catholic Church, 7am
Lanai City, Hawaii

The CNMI, Guam and Australia would be the first to participate among the 300 churches, ministries, denominations, and organizations worldwide that have confirmed joining this Global Day of Prayer for Peace in the Scarborough Shoal. ***(PR)***

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press
Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

US should do more to shape Syria's future

It was called the Arab Spring when it began—a wave of popular movements rising up against longtime strongmen, first in Tunisia, then in other nations including Egypt and Libya. But it is in Syria where the connotation of "spring" as a hopeful beginning has lost all meaning in the deepening violence of civil war.

Even Tunisia, thought to be the most likely soil for a moderate Arab democracy, is now threatened by frequent protests by ultraconservative Muslims who seek to turn the country into a strict Islamic state.

But the situation in Syria is most worrisome. There, more of the anti-regime forces are made up by better-organized Islamic militants raising the banner of jihad. The risk is that as the civil war drags on, it will radicalize more of the population and that will give the Islamists a larger say in any post-Assad government.

The Obama administration has supplied some rebel groups with limited quantities of equipment and money for arms. Earlier this year, in a memo only recently revealed, the White House authorized the CIA and other agencies to provide support for rebels fighting the forces of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

For the most part, however, the administration has stood on the sidelines, which may have been the most prudent strategy. But events over the last few weeks suggest that even this carries a risk of creating a vacuum that could turn the future Syria into a breeding ground for terrorist groups.

While few would advocate American "boots on the ground," it is time for Washington to take a more assertive role in shaping the future Syria and bringing down the Assad regime.

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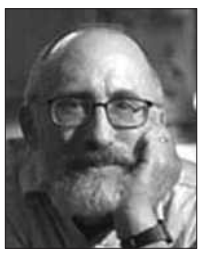
Science, such a sweet mystery

By DAVID P. BARASH
Los Angeles Times



David P. Barash is an evolutionary biologist and professor of psychology at the University of Washington; his most recent book is "Homo Mysterious: Evolutionary Puzzles of Human Nature." He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

I have been teaching and doing research at the university level for more than 40 years, which means that for more than four decades, I have been participating in a deception _ benevolent and well intentioned, to be sure, but a deception nonetheless. As a scientist, I do science, and as a teacher and writer, I communicate it. That's where the deception comes in.

When scientists speak to the public or to students, we talk about what we know, what science has discovered. Nothing wrong with this. After all, we work hard deciphering nature's secrets and we're proud whenever we succeed. But it gives the false impression that we know pretty much everything, whereas the reality is that there's a whole lot more that we don't know.

Teaching and writing only about what is known risks turning science into a mere catalog of established facts, suggesting that "knowing" science is a matter of memorizing: this is how cells metabolize carbohydrates, this is how natural selection works, this is how the information encoded in DNA is translated into proteins.

In my first college-level biology course, I was required to memorize all of the digestive enzymes and what they do. Even today, I can't stomach those darned chemicals, and I fear the situation is scarcely much better at most universities today.

Paradoxically, the strong point of American higher education—our talent as a nation vis-a-vis, say, China—is that we are supposed to be more open to innovation and original thinking, whereas they are more "into" rote learning. It is time, therefore, to start teaching courses, giving lectures and writing books about what we don't know about biology, chemistry, geology, physics, mathematics.

There's plenty to communicate because we are surrounded by mysteries, far more than are dreamt of in anyone's philosophy. But don't get the wrong idea, Horatio: Mystery is not the same as mysticism, and I'm not referring to some sort of ineffable, spiritualistic claptrap beyond the reach of natural law and human understanding. Just as "weeds" are plants that haven't yet been assigned a value, scientific mysteries are simply good questions waiting for answers.

I'm not thinking here of the obvious unknowns, such as "Is there life on other planets?" or "How many particles can dance on the head of the CERN accelerator?" Rather, there is plenty we don't know about the things we think we understand. Nor is this a problem or a momentary lack of closure. Science is altogether dynamic and wonderfully incomplete.

Looking just at my field, evolutionary biology, the unknowns are immense: How widespread are nonadaptive traits? To what extent does evolution proceed by very small, gradual steps versus larger, quantum jumps? Why does sexuality occur at all, since it is fully one-half as efficient in projecting genes into the future compared with its asexual alternative? What is the purpose of all that "junk DNA"? Did human beings evolve from a single lineage, or many times, independently? Why does homosexuality persist? Why do women _ unique among mammals _ conceal their ovulation, possess conspicuous non-lactating breasts and experience orgasm, as well as menopause? Why is the life span of men so much shorter than that of women? Why do we have such big brains? Why are we conscious? Why do we age, sleep, dream, blush, cry or yawn? This is but a partial list.

Don't be discouraged, however. "Mystics exult in mystery and want it to stay mysterious," writes Richard Dawkins. "Scientists exult in mystery for a different reason: It gives them something to do."

And we've got plenty to do. We might start by acknowledging our ignorance. We could then revel in the numerous hypotheses that have already been proposed to rectify that ignorance; there are, in fact, a dozen or so potential explanations for each of the mysteries listed above—we just don't know, yet, which ones are the most promising.

There is a difference between science as a body of knowledge and science as the pursuit of the unknown. Ideally, there would be no tension between the two because it's only by pursuing the unknown that we obtain knowledge. And yet, these two aspects of science coexist uneasily. This wasn't always the case.

Between 1751 and 1765, the Encyclopedie was published in France. It endeavored to summarize all human knowledge in its 18,000 pages of text, 75,000 different entries and 20 million words. Its primary editor, Denis Diderot, was one of the heroes of the Enlightenment, and indeed, the Encyclopedie represents a culmination of Enlightenment thought, which valued reason, science and progress _ what we know _ above all else.

It is paradoxical testimony to how much we have learned in the intervening 250 years that today no one could seriously entertain

See SCIENCE on Next Page

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The dust is Red

By JAIME R. VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Former PSS teacher Jaime Vergara now teaches at Hang Gong Hang Tian Da Zue, Shenyang Aerospace University and is currently traveling in north Inner Mongolia in the prefecture of Hulunbeier.

The East is Red was Mao Zedong's signature phrase, and a musical was created to announce it. In Dong Bei the northeast, all the dust is red! It must be this dust that Pearl Buck called The Good Earth, in her trilogy. Though Buck's novel is set further south than Shenyang, the fictitious farm must be of the same red soil that dominates the northeast and Nei Menggu of our recent travels.

Almost all the buildings in the northeast are made out of red bricks. The material lends itself to designs from England and Russia; thus, English Tudor-Elizabethan and Russian Slav-Byzantine architecture predominate.

It is the architecture of minor cities and towns that caught our attention, in that, the single collectivist units of the recent past are being replaced by Gothic and Castle designs, the Lord's manor and the parson's manse, the moat tower and the Stuart-Georgian-Victorian signatures in the new towns.

In the '70s, we decried the promotion of the California ranch house as the model in the U.S. and around the world. It was adopted for the two-garage door dwelling, three-bedrooms, with 2.5 children, a couple of cats, and a boiling chicken in every pot! It is also a real estate guzzler, thus, the endless spread of suburban development around our metropolitan centers. Automobile-dependent, its aim of freedom of mobility justified the interstate highway system, but the question remains of its sustainability. The answer, we now know, is NO.

China's nouveau riche is now vying for a piece of the manor in the countryside, more as an investment, though the MTV set liberated from the confines of Spartan country life, are opting for more lively options. China under construction, at least, in the northeast, is a picture of high-rise buildings, which retains the socialist face of Chinese communalism, as opposed to the rugged individualism (ignore your neighbor) that has proven to be a nightmare in public housing in the west.

Manzhouli in Inner Mongolia sparkles like a gem of an oasis in an expanse of grasslands; easily prone to desertification should there be paucity of rain that sustains it. Building constructions are propping up along a line from the border with Russia and Mongolia into the old Russian city of cupolas and domes. The red brick predominates, and the ubiquitous green mesh to control the dust is a facile attempt to protect the breathing public.

In fact, the red dust is all over the place, more so in Hailar where construction defies zoning rationale. Ditto for the places where we lingered overnight: E'erguna and its wetlands, Gen He and its forested plain with protected reindeers, Shi Wei and its new prominence along the Amur with its communities of Chinese-speaking Russians, Moer Duga-Man Gui-Mo He with their forest reserves in the Great Xing'an Range. New buildings are being constructed in the confluence of parks and abandoned housing, rail lines and elevated highways, all resplendent under the ever-present crane. In our two-week travels around the northeast, the construction scene became an expected given. The red dust now resides in the recesses of our snout!

The production of red bricks is a dirty business, not just in the firing of the clay in the ovens but more in the generation of power from coal-fired plants that dot the landscape. The west is alarmed as China refuses to allow the world's standards to regulate its carbon-emissions, but after what we did in Appalachia, and the offshore mines we invested into in other countries (gold in the Philippines; copper in Chile-Peru, oil all over), we can hardly be sanctimonious in our dealing with newly industrialized and industrializing nations.

Still, the pollution of one is the pollution of all. The carbon emissions in the grasslands may not be too noticeable (though the dark clouds accompanying morning mist and low hanging fog is very telling) but the effect is felt worldwide.

Already, the U.S. is under alert over the tsunami debris from Fukushima, as well as the radiation fallout. Bill McKibben, a warm-hearted Methodist who does not give in to despair easily, raises three numbers in a recent Rolling Stone article. All have to do with carbon emission, and we have exceeded all minimum standards.

The oil industry, in order to return to sanity, will have to forego 70 percent of its current activities, and that would render its existence as an investment asset nil. Thus, McKibben declares war on the industry, and in the U.S., enemy #1 is Shell. (This will not warm the heart of Shell's Jeff Boyer of our acquaintance!)

We are not at war with anyone, nor are we resigned to just saying, "Can't we all get along?" The harsh reality is that some folks are "more equal than others", though it is self-evident that the destruction of the planet benefits no one, thus, the need of the McKibbens of the world to remind us what we are up-against.

The dust being red in Dong Bei is not that harmful; the red light around the world on carbon emission is. China's inhaling of carbon emissions, and the red dust, will be here awhile!

Aren't you glad you live in Saipan?

Shake-up in Afghan government portends the nation's divided future

By SARAH CHAYES
Los Angeles Times

Sarah Chayes, former special assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, is a resident associate at the Carnegie Endowment. She wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

In a raucous session that brought lawmakers to blows this month, the Afghan parliament passed a no-confidence vote against the country's top security officials: the ministers of defense and interior. With Afghanistan struggling to take on more challenging pieces of its own defense burden from international troops, the decision came as an ill-timed surprise. Just as surprising was President Hamid Karzai's quick agreement that the two should go.

It is always hazardous to claim to see through the complexities of Afghan politics, but the ousters were clearly rooted, at least in part, in a fierce struggle for positioning in a post-America Afghanistan that may well implode.

One reason cited by officials and the media for the no-confidence vote is that the lawmakers had grown exasperated by the security forces' inability to stem or respond to artillery fire that has been pummeling Afghanistan from neighboring Pakistan. It's certainly true that people are frustrated by the shelling, but whether that is the reason or the excuse for the vote is less clear. Short of a declaration of war on Pakistan, an eminently political decision that would require at least some international coordination, it's not clear what the army could do.

A second reason cited for the ousters is that Karzai wants to demonstrate that he is at last taking action against corruption in his government, and the record of police and military personnel is particularly poor. However, having worked for two commanders of international military forces as well as for the Joint Staff on anti-corruption policy in Afghanistan, I have not observed Karzai, since 2003, make a good-faith move to address the institutionalized graft that plagues his country. Rather, he has obstructed anti-corruption efforts, directing ministers to shut down investigations, ordering detained suspects set free, and reportedly helping arrange the 2010 escape from Afghanistan of a former minister of religious affairs indicted on charges of corruption. It seems unlikely that high-mindedness is motivating the president now.

A third reason frequently cited for the vote is that the members of the Afghan parliament _ far from immune to corruption themselves _ were irritated at their inability to obtain some of the jobs and lucrative contracts the two ministers hand out. Though all of these possibilities probably contain elements of truth, and may have helped stoke lawmakers' enthusiasm for the vote, this third one rings truest.

But to understand the move's greatest significance, you have to examine the ouster of the interior minister, Bismullah Khan Mohammadi.

Mohammadi, an ethnic Tajik, was a key commander in the northern resistance to the Taliban during the civil war that raged in Afghanistan from 1994 through the fall of that regime in 2001. For the first eight years of the Karzai government, he served as chief of staff of the Afghan national army. Senior U.S. and Afghan military officers once described to me how shrewdly he calculated his appointments, especially at the crucial middle-management level, larding the officer corps with lieutenant colonels and colonels loyal to the old northern commanders.

As minister of the interior, a position he assumed in June 2010, he aggressively pursued the same policy within the Afghan national police while retaining the personal loyalty of many ranking army officers. In 2011, NATO's International Security Assistance Force Joint Command, which manages the day-to-day running of the war, was tracking the way he gerrymandered police zones in the north so as to build what amounted to a region that excludes ethnic Pashtuns. He also rapidly expanded the arming of local militias in the north.

Most Afghans and experienced observers I know say a plausible scenario upon the large-scale departure of international troops in 2014 is either disintegration into civil conflict or a de facto division of power along ethnic lines, with a Pakistan-backed Pashtun bloc in the south and east lining up against one or more northern non-Pashtun blocs that might well gain military support from India and Uzbekistan, if not Iran. Recent signs indicate that many key players are already rushing to consolidate their positions within this framework, already operating, for all intents and purposes, in a post-2014 world.

It is in this context that Mohammadi's dismissal is to be understood. He is a key northern bloc asset. And in the same way international forces stepped up their campaign to capture and kill Taliban commanders, northern military leaders are being neutralized at a rapid rate, regardless of their official positions in the Karzai government. Before Mohammadi, it was key Uzbek former commander Ahmad Khan Samanghani, killed in a blast at a wedding in mid-July.

The other minister voted out of office this month, Abdul Rahim Wardak, is far less consequential. Though described as a Karzai loyalist and appreciated by international officials, he was known to be the butt of verbal abuse by Karzai in Cabinet meetings and was reputed to be a heavy drinker with little real control over the Afghan army. Karzai typically removes officials in pairs to provide the appearance of ethnic or tribal evenhandedness. In this case, Wardak would be the fig leaf for Mohammadi's removal.

This reading of events suggests that Karzai will end up aligning himself with the Pakistan/Pashtun, Taliban-tolerant bloc. While as president he has often criticized Pakistan, he also has expressed understanding for the Taliban and has pardoned dozens of Taliban prisoners. In 1994, when the Taliban took power in southern Afghanistan, Karzai was a strong supporter. The regime selected him to serve as its ambassador to the United Nations, though it never got a seat in the world body. So perhaps we should not be surprised if he lines up that way again today.

SCIENCE

From Page 6

the prospect of summarizing all human knowledge in a book, or series of books, or even via the Internet. And yet, the temptation remains: to rest on our laurels, to celebrate our truly encyclopedic knowledge, to teach it, write it, speak it, learn it, demand that it be mastered as if what we know now is enough. (Or, worse yet, to glumly conclude that we have reached "the end of science.")

To be sure, we need to keep celebrating and transmitting what we know, but, at least as important, we had better keep our eyes on what we don't know

if the scientific enterprise is to continue attracting new adherents who will keep pushing the envelope of our knowledge rather than resting satisfied within its cozy boundaries.

"There is a crack in everything," writes poet-songwriter Leonard Cohen. "That's how the light gets in."

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87 ° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

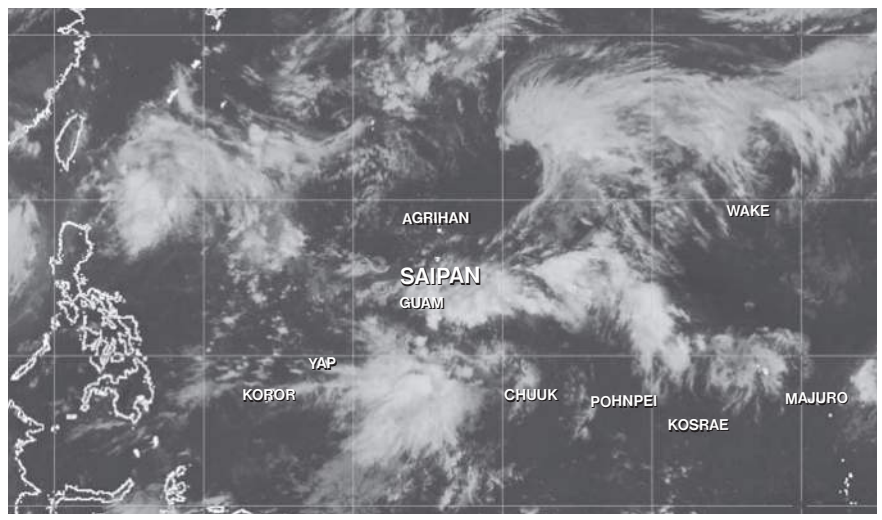
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Mostly Cloudy	▲87	▼77
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲88	▼77
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲87	▼77
Chuuk	Mostly Cloudy	▲87	▼75
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	▲87	▼77
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲87	▼78
Majuro	Mostly Cloudy	▲88	▼76

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲63	▼51
Beijing	Thundershowers	▲83	▼69
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲88	▼82
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼74
London	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼66
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲88	▼68
Manila	Thundershowers	▲88	▼78
Melbourne	Rain	▲56	▼42
Miami	Thundershowers	▲89	▼77
New York	Thundershowers	▲90	▼67
Osaka	Thunderstorms	▲91	▼77
Paris	Sunny	▲94	▼74
Pusan	Mostly Cloudy	▲86	▼79
Rome	Sunny	▲96	▼75
Salem	Sunny	▲98	▼61
San Francisco	Sunny	▲65	▼56
Seoul	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼78
Tokyo	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼76
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲94	▼71

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, FRIDAY, AUGUST 17, 2012

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Converging trade winds are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms southeast of okinawa, or west of a line from 16N137E to 25N137E. A monsoon trough meanders eastward from 10N130E through two weak circulations centered near Koror at 8N133E and west of Guam at 12N141E to end northeast of Pohnpei at 8N160E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are present north of the trough near Guam and Saipan within 80 miles of a line from 15N140E to 14N152E. Convergent west winds south of the circulation near Guam are triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over Yap state between 3N and 11N from 140E to 149E. An upper-level low is centered west of Minami Tori Shima at 24N151E. Divergent upper-level winds near and east of the low are causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms north of a line from 21N150E to 19N160E to 21N172E.Converging trade winds are generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms near Kwajalein and Majuro within 80 miles of a line from 15N157E to 9N162E to 9N170E. Scattered showers are found farther east near the date line within 50 miles of a line from 9N173E to 7N180.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

3:02 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet
8:22 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
3:17 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
9:43 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:03 AM	6:39 PM
Sunday	6:03 AM	6:38 PM
Monday	6:03 AM	6:37 PM
Tuesday	6:03 AM	6:37 PM
Wednesday	6:03 AM	6:36 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:15 AM	6:52 PM
Sunday	7:09 AM	7:35 PM
Monday	8:04 AM	8:19 PM
Tuesday	9:01 AM	9:05 PM
Wednesday	9:58 AM	9:53 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 14, 2012

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:10am	1, 3, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA5074	11:30am	12:20pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:50pm	7:40pm	Daily
UA5072	9:55pm	10:45pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL285	6:30am	9:15am	1, 3, 5, 7
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)			
0Z606/120	2:20am	8:50pm	1 via ICN
0Z606/120	2:50am	8:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
0Z604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
0Z606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:00pm	Daily via NRT
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	Daily via GUM
UA5076/193	3:10pm	10:25pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
0Z604/703	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50pm	1 via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 5 via GUM
0Z604/723	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5062	3:40am	5:40am	1, 3, 5 via SPN
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)			
UA5062	3:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5062	2:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5 via ROP
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:10am	8:00am	Daily
UA5073	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:25pm	6:15pm	Daily
UA5079	8:35pm	9:25pm	Daily
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL286	7:40pm	12:15am +1	2, 4, 6, 7
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily
OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN			
0Z119/606	9:30am	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z119/606	9:30am	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
0Z603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
DL172/288	7:50am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:15pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA192/5071	9:45pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:25pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM
0Z704/603	11:40pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
0Z724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA180/5071	10:35pm	8:00am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

SCHEDULE OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES

CATHOLIC

Mt. Carmel Cathedral
Sunday Mass: 6am Chamorro, 9am English, 11am Filipino and 6pm English
Monday-Saturday: 6am Chamorro
Wednesday: 6pm Chamorro
Parish office hours:
Monday-Saturday
8am-12pm, 12-1pm, 1-5pm

Korean Center
Sunday: 10:30am
Wednesday: 10am
Thursday-Friday: 8pm
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

Kristo Rai Parish
Sunday- Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm (PH Novena 5:45pm)
Friday: 5:30pm praying of Divine Mercy Chaplet; 6pm devotional mass in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
Saturday: 6am and 6pm (anticipated)
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am 6pm Tagalog mass
Parish office hours: (Fr. Celso G. Magbanua) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 8-11:30am/ 3-5:30pm, Wednesday and Friday 3-5pm.
Telephone no. 285-0273

Santa Soledad Mission Parish
Monday: 6pm
Tuesday: 6pm
Wednesday: 6pm
Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm (Youth mass/ anticipated Sunday mass)
Sunday: 7am and 9am (Children's mass)
Parish office hours: Wednesday and Friday: 8-10am,
Saturday: 4-6pm
Telephone no. 256-4568

Saint Jude Parish
Monday- Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 7am
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am
Parish office hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-11:30am, 3:30-5pm
Office is close every Thursday and Saturday
Telephone no. 288-0007

San Antonio Parish
Monday-Friday 6pm
Saturday: 6pm
Sunday: 7am, 9am (Blessing of children)
Parish office hours: Tuesday-Saturday: 8-11:30am, 2-4:45pm
Close on Sunday and Monday

San Francisco de Borja-Rota
Sunday: 6am Chamorro, 8am English
Monday and Tuesday:6am Chamorro
Wednesday:6pm English
Thursday: 6am Chamorro
Friday: 6am English
Saturday: 6am Chamorro, 6pm Tagalog
Sunday: anticipated mass

San Isidro-Rota
Sunday: 5am, 8am, 10am
Monday-Friday: 7pm
Saturday: 5am and 7pm

San Jose (Oleai) Parish
Monday- Saturday: 6am daily mass
Monday- Sunday: 3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
Wednesday: 6pm, mass, exposition of the blessed sacrament
Saturday: 6pm, anticipated Sunday mass
Sunday: 7:30-9am English, 6pm Tagalog mass
Office hours: Monday-Wednesday: 9am-12pm, 2-5pm
Thursday: day off
Friday- Saturday: 8am-12pm, 2-5pm
Telephone no. 234-6991

San Roque Parish
Sunday: 7:30am Chamorro, 9am English
Monday: 6pm English
Tuesday: 6pm English
Wednesday: 6pm English- novena mass to our Lady of San Roque oil
Thursday: 6pm English
Friday: 6pm English- Devotion to the sacred heart of Jesus (First Fridays)
Saturday: 6am English- Our Lady's Saturday mass for the intentions of the Men and Women in military service, 6pm English- anticipated mass
Parish office hours: daily except Thursday and Sundays: 4:30-6pm
Telephone no. 322-2404, Fr. Bong's cell: 285-912, Diocesan Finance office: 234-3000 ext.143

San Vicente Parish
Monday-Friday: 6pm,
Saturday: 6pm (First Saturday of every month)
Sunday: 6am anticipated mass, 6pm (Neo Catechumenal community mass), 8pm
Sunday: 6am, 9am, 6pm
Parish office hours: daily 9-11am
Telephone no. 235-8208 or 287-0131

Santa Remedios
Sunday: 8am
Monday: 6pm (1st Mondays cemetery masses at 5:30pm)
Tuesday- Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm-anticipated Sunday mass 8-10pm
Parish office hours: Monday- Friday: 8:30am-12pm

PROTESTANT

Amen Church
Sunday : 10am, 1pm, 5pm Wednesday : 7pm Friday Prayer : 9pm Bible Study : 4pm (Tue) Music Practice : 5pm (Sat) Korean class: 3:30pm (Thu) Visitation : 10am(Fri, Sat) Outreach : 8am (First Sat) Tel. No. 285-2121, 256-2221 Email : oseyo@daum.net

Born Again Christian
(Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan
Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm
Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm
Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am
Sunday School for Children: 10-11am
Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10am
Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm
Telephone no. 234-6026/27

Chinese Christian Church of Saipan
Worship Services:
Sunday: Chinese and Filipino 9am, English 6pm
Bible Study: Wednesday and Saturday 8pm
Telephone no. 235-8540

Church 360
Suite 103 of Marianas Business Plaza (1st floor of former Nauru Building).
Contact www.church360saipan.org, info@church360saipan.org, or call 888-2116
Celebration Service: Sunday at 10:15am
Prayer Fellowship: Wednesday at 6:00pm

Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan
Morning Service, Sunday, 10:00 am
Evening Service, Sunday, 6:00 pm
Children Sunday School, 10:00am/ 6:00 pm
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7-9 pm
Youth Night of Worship, Friday, 6:30 pm
As Perdido Road
Chalan Piao, Saipan MP 96950
Tel. No. (670) 235-8590
Email: cornerstone@cfemcares.org

Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 10:00am
Place: Garapan, Plumeria Road,
Call 285-6081 for directions

Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 9-11am
Sunday school/ Children's church 9am (nursery available during Sunday service)
GBI Classes: 4-6pm
Prayer Meeting: 6am Tuesday GCA Kagman, Wednesday Navy Hill, Thursday San Antonio
Home Cell Bible Study: 7pm (Through out the week)
Telephone no. 322-5680

Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan
Wednesday: 7:45pm (English)
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (Tagalog)
Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Sunday: 6:45am (English)
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

Immanuel United Methodist Church
Chalan Kanoa Drive, Chalan Kanoa (east of Town Center and Beach Road, Near Mt. Carmel Cathedral)
Worship Service: 9:00am
Children's Sunday School: 9:00am
Choir Practice: 8:00am
Singspiration: 8:30am
Prayer, Care & Share: Wednesday 7:00pm
Pastor: Millie Carroll 322-6158

Immanuel Methodist Church
(Filipino Congregation)
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group
8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)
Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)
(Korean Congregation)
Sunday worship: 9am, 10:30, 1pm
Wednesday evening service: 8pm
Daily morning prayer: 5am

Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan
Sunday English Service: 7:30-9am,
Sunday Tagalog Service: 9-11am and 6-8pm,
Wednesday: 7:30-9pm

Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9:20am
Sunday Adult: 11am
Sunday Evening: 7:30pm
Wednesday: 8pm

Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 10am–12noon
Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm
Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm
Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm
Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm
Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

Living Hope Church of the Nazarene
Isa Drive, I-Denni Hill across from Ponderosa Heights
Bible Studies for all ages: Sunday at 10:00 am
Worship: Sunday at 11:00 am
Pastor Dave Bucher, 256-1142

Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan
English Worship Service: 9-10:30am
Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm
Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am
Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm
English Sunday School: 11am-12pm
Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting:
English, 7pm-8pm
Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

Missions Connection Ministry
Every Sunday Celebrations:
10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog)
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm
Youth Impact Friday: 7pm
Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

Northern Marianas Christian Church
Sunday Worship Service: 10 am at Seventh Day Adventist church on Quartermaster Rd.
Wednesday Service: 7 pm at Fina Sisu Housing FS#1
Contact Nick for more info: 287-1661

Marianas Bible Fellowship Center
Sunday School: 9-9:30am
Divine Worship: 9:30-11am
Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ (4th Watch)
Sunday worship 8:30am
Sunday evening 7:00pm
Prayer meeting, every Wednesday 7:30pm
San Jose village, after San Jose Hotel
Telephone: 789-7566

Saipan Christian Church
Sunday: 7:30am-10am
Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm
Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting)
Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

Saipan Church of Christ
Sunday Bible Class: 9am
Sunday Worship: 10am
Sunday Worship English: 10-11am
Sunday Worship Tagalog: 6-7pm
Thursday Bible Study: 7pm

Saipan Community Church
(Sunday Services)
Palau Service: 7:30am-9am
English Service: 10am-11:30am
Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm
Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan
(Saturday Church Services)
Sabbath School Program: 9-10am
Lesson Study: 10-10:40am
Divine Service: 11-12pm
Visitation: 3-4pm
Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm
Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

First Baptist Church Koblerville
Sunday services:
Sunday school 9:00am
Morning worship 10:00am
Evening service 6:00pm
Wednesday evening bible study 7:00pm

Chinese services
Sunday morning 10:00am
Sunday evening 7:00pm

Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church.
Telephone No: 285-4661/2

Thy Word Ministries Saipan
Faith Center
Phone 234-0209
New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches.
Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi
Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi

Service Times
Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes
Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies
Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer
Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice
Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service
Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

Upper Room International Ministries
Sunday 5:30am-6:30am
Morning prayer
7am-9am English service
7am-9am Sunday school
10am-12noon English service, Koblerville
Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting
Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service
Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church
Gualo Rai, Saipan

Victory Chapel Christian
Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30am
Sunday AM Worship:10:30am
Sunday PM Worship:7:00am
Wed Worship: 7:30pm
Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times
Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

Victorious Christian Church
(Formerly God's Victorious Army)
Sunday 8:30am to 10:30am - Worship Service
Monday 7:00 pm - Women's Fellowship
Tuesday nights - Home cellgroup
Wednesday - 7:30pm to 9:00pm Mid Week Service
Friday 7:30pm to 9:00pm Prayer Meeting
Saturday nights - Praise and worship practice
Last Friday of the month - Overnight praying meeting
Pastor Brendon Perez - Tel# 2359246

Editor's Note: Information subject to change without prior notice. All information provided by the respective churches. If you want your church or religious activities included or to report changes and errors, call *Saipan Tribune* at 235-6397 or 235-2440 or email editor@saipantribune.com.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Aug. 18, 2000

Govt weighs Outer Cove Marina takeover
The controversy over the Outer Cove Marina may soon come to an end as the government is expected to decide in two weeks whether it has a stake in its operation in partnership with the Marine Revitalization Corporation. Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio pledged to come up with the decision after meeting yesterday with MRC President Anthony Pellegrino and other government officials in an effort to resolve the long-standing dispute that has heightened in recent weeks. Mr. Pellegrino described his audience with the governor as his "last resort" following what appeared to be irreconcilable differences with boat owners and tour operators who use the Outer Cove.

CPA's aviation division posts growth
As the tourism economy shows slight improvement with the growth of passenger traffic in international and domestic flights, the Aviation Division of the Commonwealth Ports Authority posted a 28 percent growth in operating revenue for the month of June 2000 compared to the same period the previous year. The increase in revenue was also due to the airline incentive program, revenue base enhancement and rate hike, according to a financial report made by Dave Demapan, CPA comptroller. Aviation revenue jumped 40 percent jumped over the level of Fiscal Year 1999 while non-aviation revenue recorded a 12 percent hike. The aviation revenues which surpassed the same period of FY 1999 are the following: international landing fee by 62 percent, domestic landing fee by 81 percent, incinerator fee by 36 percent, international enplanement fee by 50 percent, domestic enplanement fee by 17 percent, international deplanement fee by 36 percent and fuel flowage fee by 80 percent.

Aug. 18, 2003

'Manglona cut corners in special polls'
Despite special elections already set for Tinian, Sen. David M. Cing is still insisting that the process by which the special polls was called was done improperly. Gov. Juan N. Babauta had called for the special elections on Tinian last August 4 after receiving a letter from Senate president Paul A. Manglona declaring the seat of Sen. Jose Dela Cruz vacant. Cing took exception to this, saying that Manglona cannot by himself declare a vacancy at the Senate without the concurrence of the full Senate majority. "The president of the Senate cannot do it alone. The president of the Senate cannot by himself write a letter to Gov. Babauta regarding the vacancy of Sen. Dela Cruz. He cannot do that. The full Senate has to send the letter to the governor requesting to declare the vacancy," said Cing.

Yumul: MVA job placement a 'circus'
Saipan trader Ray N. Yumul has vowed to pursue his battle questioning the rehiring of Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Jonas Ogren, calling the job vacancy placement for the executive post a "circus." Yumul had demanded that the Department of Labor come out with a final agency action or a schedule providing for an administrative hearing on his complaint. He had also indicated that he would go to court should the department come out with an adverse final decision. The businessman is insisting that the MVA should have hired him instead of rehiring Ogren-a Swedish national-citing the statutory mandate that requires local residents to be given preference over nonresidents in hiring.

Aug. 18, 2004

$38K grant to fund training for AGO probers
The Department of Interior's Office of Insular Affairs has awarded the CNMI Attorney General's Office a $38,100 grant for investigator training, according to attorney general Pamela Brown. In a statement yesterday, Brown said the technical assistance grant will pay for a two-week professional training course at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynco, Georgia, to be attended by six investigators in the Attorney General's Investigative Unit. The training program will assist the AGO in securing additional and relevant training that will enhance the investigators' ability to produce quality and timely investigative reports. It will also increase their ability to monitor the expenditure of local and federal government funds and follow up on alleged criminal issues (fraud, waste, abuse, etc.).

Maharlika

PH Consulate monitors CHC situation

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Philippine Consulate General on Saipan is "closely" monitoring the situation at the Commonwealth Health Center owing to the Filipino workers employed by the islands' lone public hospital who are affected by the ongoing crisis.

Consul General Medardo Macaraig said yesterday that the monitoring is done through reports by various media outlets since they have not met with anyone from the hospital administration and the local government nor have they received any requests for assistance or complaints from CHC's Filipino employees.

"We are monitoring it because of any labor problems that may arise," he said in an interview. "We note from newspapers and the television that there is a problem at CHC."

Macaraig

CHC was put under a state of emergency on Tuesday and the Department of Finance transferred some $800,000 or the remainder of the $5 million "seed" money for the hospital since it became a corporation last October.

The amount covered the payroll for hospital employees, some of whom also have not received several months' worth of their housing allowance.

That same day, outpatient clinics at the hospital were temporarily closed until further notice last Tuesday afternoon. These are the Family Care Clinic, the Women's Clinic, and the Children's Clinic.

Macaraig is concerned about the hospital situation given that Filipinos comprise a significant number of CHC's workforce.

Saipan Tribune learned that in the nursing department alone, about 85 percent of the 141 current nurses are Filipinos. Some of these staff serve as volunteers for the Consulate's quarterly health screenings.

"It doesn't help that CHC is facing these problems, with the Consulate closing down soon," Macaraig said.

The Consulate's last day to serve the Filipino community in the Commonwealth is on Oct. 31.

"We will have our counterparts in Guam to continue monitoring the CHC situation once we shut down since we will be transferring our responsibilities to them," added Macaraig.

Helen' exits; public told to stay alert for monsoon rains

By DJ YAP
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

AP

A man pushes a cart full of schoolchildren as they cross a flooded road in suburban Pasig, east of Manila, Philippines, Wednesday Aug. 15, 2012.

Typhoon "Helen" is out but rains remain a threat to people living in low-lying and mountainous areas.

The weather bureau asked the public to remain watchful of rains and winds brought by the storm-enhanced southwest monsoon.

The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) lowered all public storm signals nationwide as Helen exited the country on Thursday.

Pagasa reissued its warning to residents living in low-lying and mountainous areas affected by the southwest monsoon for possible flash floods and landslides.

The storm's exit offered some relief for millions of people struggling to recover from a brutal few weeks of monsoon rains that claimed 109 lives.

However, civil defense chief Benito Ramos said floods could still hit the Cagayan River basin, a farming region of more than 2 million people as runoff from storm-induced rains descend from surrounding mountain ranges.

"The storm is gone but we're still on red alert. In 10 hours we'd know how much water would descend on Cagayan River," Ramos said.

Helen strengthened into a typhoon on Thursday and was heading toward the coast of southern China west of Hong Kong.

The storm swept across Luzon on Wednesday, dumping heavy rain on the Cagayan basin and other areas in the north, leading to the deaths of four people.

But the storm also caused more bad weather in other parts of Luzon, including Metro Manila and surrounding farming regions where an intense deluge triggered by another storm caused devastating floods last week.

105 killed

Those floods, which came after nearly a fortnight of relentless rain that soaked the ground and filled rivers, killed at least 105 people, according to the government's latest tally.

The government's National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council said it was still providing relief aid to nearly a million people adversely affected by last week's floods, including more than 216,000 at evacuation centers.

Floods that persisted in the farming provinces surrounding Manila had started to recede, and the number of people in evacuation centers was about half the peak over the weekend.

At 4 a.m. Thursday, Helen was spotted at 290 kilometers west northwest of Laoag City, Pagasa said.

The storm was still packing maximum sustained winds of 85 kph near the center and gustiness of up to 100 kph, and was forecast to move west northwest at a speed of 24 kph.

By afternoon, Helen should already be well out of the Philippine area of responsibility at 530 km west northwest of Laoag City, Pagasa said in an advisory.

In its 5 p.m. bulletin, Pagasa said the western section of Luzon would experience occasional to frequent rains because of the monsoon, while Mindanao would have mostly cloudy skies with scattered rain showers and thunderstorms.

The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rain showers or thunderstorms, it said.

Moderate to strong winds blowing from the southwest will prevail over Luzon and its coastal waters will be moderate to rough. Elsewhere, winds will be light to moderate coming from the south with slight to moderate seas.

Ramos said he expected most people would be able to return to their flood-damaged homes within a week.

Homes destroyed

But Ramos said more than 12,000 families, or about 60,000 people, had lost their homes completely and would need temporary shelters for a longer period.

Anna Lindenfors, country head for aid group Save the Children, warned that the millions of people affected by the floods faced months of miserable and dangerous conditions either inside or outside evacuation centers.

"The need is massive and urgent—millions of people are suffering the miserable consequences of these floods and we must try to reach them before the rains hit again," she said in a statement.

Damage to crops

In Cagayan province, the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (PDRRMC) reported that at least P500-million worth of unhusked rice and corn were destroyed by floods.

In Isabela province, agriculturist Danilo Tumamao said rains dumped by Helen in the past two days did not leave widespread destruction to farms and crops in the province, except in about 10 hectares of corn farms in San Pablo, Santa Maria, Cabagan, San Agustin and Palanan towns, and Ilagan City.

Governor Faustino Dy III said the 500 villagers in the eastern coastal towns of Palanan and Maconacon had returned to their houses after the storm passed on Wednesday.

The 360-megawatt Magat Dam's gates in Ramon town remained closed after rains stopped in the province.

Floods recede

In La Union province, floodwaters in 169 villages in 12 towns and one city started receding on Thursday.

Provincial officials said 5,135 people, who evacuated on Wednesday as floodwaters rose, returned home on Thursday.

Reports from La Union officials said the floods destroyed P2.1 million worth of palay and vegetables in the province.

Pio Adamor Dagang, provincial information officer, said bangus and tilapia fingerlings in the province's hatchery were washed away by floods.

In Ilocos Norte province, officials and residents in Paoay town, which was hit hard by Helen, started removing heaps of trash and debris on a creek that caused floodwaters to swamp two villages at the height of the storm on Wednesday.

Macaraig to bid Saipan adieu on Oct. 15

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Consul General Medardo G. Macaraig is expected to leave Saipan on Oct. 15 to go to his next consular assignment at the Philippine Embassy in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Macaraig's departure would come a little over two weeks before the last day of the Philippine Consulate General on Saipan on Oct. 31.

Citing budgetary constraints, the Department of Foreign Affairs in Manila in February made the decision to include the Philippine Consulate General on Saipan among the consular posts that will be shut down within the year.

The Consulate will cease operations after more than two decades of serving the Filipino community in the Commonwealth. Its responsibilities will be transferred to the Philippine Consulate General in Agana, Guam, as part of a wider effort to consolidate foreign service posts in the Pacific.

"When I leave Saipan, Consul Gary Auxilian of the Philippine Consulate General in Agana will be here to oversee the remaining days of the Saipan Consulate and deal with administrative matters relating to its closure," Macaraig told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview yesterday.

Initially, Macaraig's consular assignment after Saipan was in Washington, D.C. However, his wife's health condition prompted the consul general to seek another assignment in proximity to the Philippines where his wife continues to receive medical treatment.

"The Kuala Lumpur assignment is favorable for me since it's close to the Philippines. Whenever there are down times in my wife's condition, I can just fly back to Manila any time," he said.

Macaraig will replace Consul General Renato Villapando, who also held the diplomatic rank of minister. The embassy in Kuala Lumpur is led by Ambassador Jose Eduardo Malaya III.

Macaraig noted that before his departure, Agana's Consul General Bayani Mangibin will be formally introduced to the Filipino community on Saipan. A separate meeting with Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and other government officials will also be arranged.

"I will maintain my interaction with our *kababayans* in the CNMI even after I leave. Nevertheless, the official link of the Filipino community will be Consul General Mangibin and the Agana Consulate," he added.

In other news, the Philippine Consulate General on Saipan will be closed on Monday, Aug. 20, in observance of Eid'l Fitr or the Feast of Ramadhan.

Meanwhile, Aug. 21 and 27 will be special working holidays for the Consulate to honor the death anniversary of Sen. Benigno S. Aquino Jr., the father of President Benigno S. Aquino III, and in celebration of National Heroes Day. During these days, the Consulate will be open to the public only from 9am to 4pm.

Heads roll over Rolito Go caper

By JAYMEE T. GAMIL, PHILIP C. TUBEZA, TJ BURGONIO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Convicted murderer Rolito Go is back in the stockade, the Bureau of Corrections (BuCor) chief has gone on leave and five jail guards have been sacked as President Benigno Aquino ordered a probe into how a high-profile inmate disappeared from prison for at least 24 hours.

Police on Thursday said their investigation showed that Go and a nephew who was with him were "forcibly taken" from a minimum security compound at the New Bilibid Prison (NBP) in Muntinlupa City, but Justice Secretary Leila de Lima said this was being looked into.

» Bureau of Corrections chief, 5 guards sacked

Go disappeared from prison on Tuesday evening. Police were able to get him back on Wednesday at about 11 p.m.

De Lima said Mr. Aquino was dismayed by what happened, given that measures had been adopted following reports that prominent inmates had been allowed to "live out" in the past.

"He is disappointed because, you know, this kind of incident keeps happening," De Lima told reporters.

"He (the President) said, 'he thought all the safeguards and all the reform initiatives have been put in place to avoid similar incidents.' He's really disappointed and that's why he immediately ordered an investigation," she said.

De Lima said Mr. Aquino's reaction was "How can it happen again, if it's true that it's abduction or kidnapping for ransom right within the NBP?"

Pangilinan takes leave

Malacañang praised the Philippine National Police for recapturing Go. "It is good that while one agency was apparently remiss in its duties, another agency stepped up," said presidential spokesperson Edwin Lacierda.

Lacierda added: "To emphasize the principle of command responsibility and help the investigation, Bureau of Corrections Director Gaudencio Pangilinan has offered to go on leave, and the President has accepted it."

Lacierda said the NBP would be under the direct supervision of De Lima "pending the appointment of an officer in charge."

De Lima said Pangilinan went on leave "for the sake of an impartial and thorough investigation."

"Let's not preempt him," De Lima said when asked if Pangilinan was expected to resign.

"Maybe he's thinking about it, maybe he's not yet thinking about it, maybe he has a good explanation, maybe he can explain the level of responsibility and the level of efficiency and competence that was expected of him as the overall administrator of the facility," the justice secretary added.

5 guards sacked

The NBP sacked five BuCor personnel held responsible for Go's disappearance from prison. They were the officer in charge of the NBP minimum security compound, Prison Officer 1 (PSO1) Gabriel Magan; PSO1 Serafin Geronimo, PSO1 Edgardo Cruz and Prison Guards Andrew Corre and Arman Soriano.

De Lima agreed that the public expected command responsibility to reach Pangilinan's level but said managing the prison facility was difficult.

"That facility is beset with many problems, and in fairness, Director Pangilinan introduced many reforms when he took over," she told Malacañang reporters.

De Lima was skeptical about the claim of Go's family that he had been snatched from prison.

She said that according to the initial information from Pangilinan, the family of Go was claiming that he and his nephew, who was assigned to him as a nurse, "were abducted and that there was a P1-million demand."

"But that information was met with so much skepticism by Director Pangilinan, by myself and by others. Even the NBI (now says) they do not find that theory plausible but we cannot yet rule out that angle," she said.

Stricken with cancer

De Lima added: "We might put him back to somewhere other than the minimum security compound."

She said investigators would have to check the BuCor rules "because right now he is really a minimum security category on account of his age—more than 70 years old; on account of his illness—he is reportedly suffering from colon cancer, and that he is due to be released next year."

Go underwent chemotherapy after he was diagnosed with colon cancer in 2010. At a separate press conference at the PNP, he showed his colostomy bag to the media and said his nephew had been helping him for the last two months with his treatment.

De Lima did not rule out the possibility that an escape attempt would jeopardize Go's release next year.

She said: "If it turns out that he was indeed abducted, then there's no culpability on his part. But if he was an escapee, there are consequences to that. That might jeopardize his scheduled release next year."

'NBI agents'

She said the justice department could file charges against Go, as it had done against former Batangas Governor Antonio Leviste over the latter's infamous trip out of prison last year. Leviste is serving 12 years in jail for the 2009 killing of his friend, Rafael de las Alas.

In the press conference in Camp Crame, Go said four men who pretended to be National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) agents forcibly took him and his nephew, Clemence Yu, from the NBP compound around 7 p.m. on Tuesday.

He said he and his nephew were released on Wednesday night in Sto. Tomas, Batangas province.

"I was at Ina ng Awa parish on my way back to the minimum (security) compound when the four suddenly arrived, wearing IDs and claiming to be from the NBI. They had guns," Go said in Filipino.

"I didn't know them but they knew me. They said 'Mr. Go' and said they were taking me to the NBI," he added.

PNP Director General Nicanor Bartolome presented Go and Yu at the press conference in Camp Crame.

Go said that despite the public uproar over his latest disappearance from the NBP, he was still hoping he would be freed next year.

"Time might be running out for me … I've served my full sentence. At least, I would still have the chance to be with my family," he said.

Forced into car

Go said his abductors told him they were bringing him to the NBI because he was going in and out of the NBP compound without authorization.

Go said that, as a "living out" inmate since 2010, he was allowed to go out of the minimum security compound.

"I said I couldn't go with them… but he put his arm over my shoulder and forced me inside a car," Go said.

Bartolome said the culprits used Yu's own car, a white Honda Civic (UUR 805), in taking them out of the compound.

Go said he and his nephew were taken to a safe house in Batangas and the kidnappers asked for a "big" amount from his family.

He said the kidnappers contacted his wife and that his wife agreed to give a smaller amount but they did not proceed "because they felt that my wife was accompanied by NBI agents."

"At around noon time (on Wednesday), their leader wanted me killed," Go said. He said that when evening came, his abductors talked among themselves and then decided to release him and his nephew.

"Maybe they saw that they couldn't get much from me. And if they kill me, they won't get any so they let me go," Go said. "I thought they got (a ransom) but when I got home, my wife said no (ransom) was paid."

Gunfire erupts

Bartolome said the police recovered Yu's car in Sto. Tomas, Batangas, and found an empty shell and one live ammunition inside.

"This jibes with the statement of Mr. Go that they opened fire inside the vehicle… According to Mr. Go, they even hit him on the head," Bartolome said.

Go showed reporters a bump in his head and cuts in his right arm. Bartolome said Yu also had wounds.

Bartolome said his men received information on Wednesday night that Go and Yu had been released and had taken a bus. He said police waited for the bus in Alabang, Muntinlupa City.

"True enough, Mr. Rolito Go and Mr. Yu disembarked from a bus that came from Sto. Tomas, Batangas. The two were processed and given medical attention," Bartolome said.

Privileges

Looking tired and bedraggled, with tufts of grey hair sticking up his forehead, Go was brought back to the NBP at around 2 p.m. on Thursday.

Escorted by six jail guards, Go was brought straight to the maximum security compound and would be taken to the prison hospital, according to NBP Superintendent Richard Schwarzkopf Jr.

This means the revocation of Go's "living out" privileges. He will also no longer be allowed to leave the maximum security compound.

Kidnappers from inside?

Justice Undersecretary Francisco Baraan said NBP officials were liable for negligence whether Go was abducted or escaped from prison.

If he did try to escape, Go stood to lose his application for parole and the chance to leave prison next year, he said.

Baraan said there was also a lapse in security because how did the kidnappers get in unless they are insiders, which is also a possibility.

Baraan said they would also look into allegations that Go was spotted at Resorts World in Pasay City last week, noting this was a "serious allegation."

WWW.INQUIRER.NET

Murder convict Rolito Go looks back as he is led inside the maximum security compound of the New Bilibid Prison in Muntinlupa City on Thursday. Go, who went missing for about 24 hours, claims he and his nephew were kidnapped on Tuesday night by four men inside the prison compound.

Philippines raises reward for fugitive ex-general

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Benigno Aquino III has doubled the reward for information leading to the arrest of an ex-general charged with kidnapping.

Presidential spokesman Edwin Lacierda said Thursday that Aquino is "displeased with the lack of progress in arresting high-profile fugitives," including retired Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan.

Palparan has been on the run since he was charged in December with kidnapping two female left-wing activists in 2006. The students remain missing. The bounty now stands at 2 million pesos ($47,100).

U.S.-based Human Rights Watch says Palparan is allegedly being protected by some military personnel and businessmen who benefited from his heavy-handed suppression of the 43-year-old communist insurgency.

Lacierda said Aquino also raised the bounty for a former provincial governor, Joel Reyes. He is accused in the killing of an environmental activist.

US blogger accuses Filipino senator of plagiarism

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—An American woman has accused a Philippine senator of plagiarizing her blog during an acrimonious debate on a contraceptives bill that has divided the predominantly Roman Catholic nation.

Sen. Vicente Sotto III denied using part of Sarah Pope's blog when he argued against the bill to distribute contraceptives in government-run health clinics.

But after Pope called Sotto a "lying thief" in her blog on Thursday, the senator's chief of staff, Hector Villacorta, acknowledged that they had used her blog without attribution.

Sotto, however, is denying the plagiarism allegation, saying both he and Pope cite the same source, a Russian-born physician who claims that contraceptives cause an imbalance between good and bad bacteria in the intestines.

The debate pits the reformist government against conservatives who consider artificial contraception as abortion.

Samut' Sari

WAREHOUSING SKILLS TRAINING

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

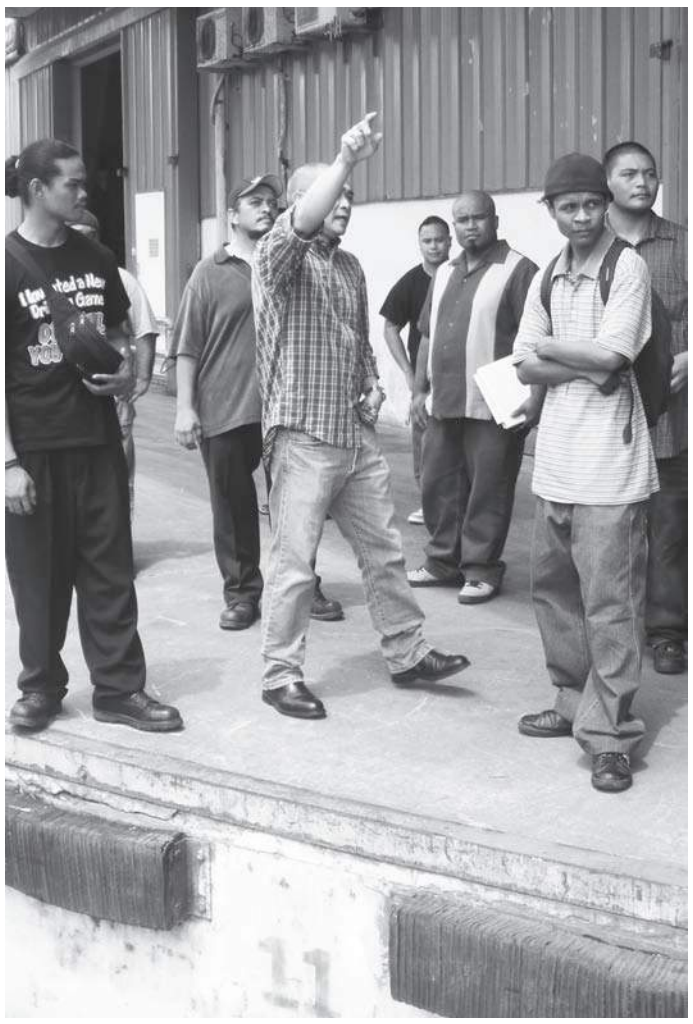
Workforce Readiness Initiative Program participants prepare for job interviews with help from Delta Management president Jim Arenovski during the CNMI Society for Human Resources Management's recent workshop on job preparation and warehousing skills training.

Tan Holdings Human Resources director Malou Ernest explains the importance of good customer service.

WFRI Program participants receive training in employer expectations from Hyatt Regency Saipan Human Resources director Josephine Mesta.

Professional Training Technology, Inc. president David Dobey trains Terence Matagolai in forklift operations.

James Sablan earning his forklift certification and license from David Dobey, president of Professional Training Technology, Inc.



CTSI Logistics general manager Joven Cruz guides participants around the CTSI warehouse.

ROMNEY SUPPORTER

Entertainment industry businessman Sid Liufau showcases his support for the Romney/Ryan ticket in front of Paul Ryan's campaign bus in Las Vegas, Nevada last Aug. 14.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Happy wedding anniversary go out to Deo and Lois Manese. Best wishes to you both on your anniversary. May the love that you share last your lifetime as you make a wonderful pair!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Happy birthday to Grandma Lillian Limes! May God bless you with many more joyous years to come! Though you are getting biya, we will always love you much! Greetings from your three little musketeers—Kai, Ankie Boi, and Ricky Boi. Grandma Lilian, left, is joined in the photo by Connie Cabrera.

Advance happy birthday to Kate Casil who is celebrating her special day on Sunday, Aug. 19. May you have many more to come, enjoy your special day! Greetings from your friends and family.

Happy birthday Velma Deleon Guerrero, who is celebrating her special day today, Aug. 18. We love you! Shout out coming from your family and friends.

Business

US unemployment aid applications up by only 2,000

WASHINGTON (AP)—The number of Americans applying for unemployment benefits edged up slightly last week but remained at a level consistent with modest gains in hiring.

Unemployment benefit applications rose by 2,000 to a seasonally adjusted 366,000, the Labor Department said. The less volatile four-week average fell by 5,500 to 363,750. That was the lowest level since late March.

Applications have trended lower in the past two months, indicating companies are laying off fewer workers and hiring is picking up. When applications fall consistently below 375,000, it generally suggests hiring is strong enough to lower the unemployment rate.

"Claims so far in August have declined moderately compared to July, suggesting some improvement in the U.S. job environment. And that's good news," said Jennifer Lee, senior economist at BMO Capital Markets.

The total number of people receiving some kind of unemployment assistance also fell, dipping to 5.68 million for the week ending July 28, 70,000 below the previous week.

The decline in the number of people applying for weekly unemployment benefits has been one of several signs that the economy and hiring rebounded in July after falling into a spring slump.

Employers added 163,000 jobs in July, the most since February. Job gains averaged only 73,000 jobs a month from April through June, not enough to keep up with a rising population. The unemployment rate blipped up to 8.3 percent, from 8.2 percent.

Americans boosted their retail spending in July by the most in five months, according to the Commerce Department. That suggests some are more confidence in the economy.

And factory output also rose in July for the second straight month, according to the Federal Reserve. A large jump in auto production drove the increase.

Slower growth in consumer spending was the main reason growth slowed in the April-June quarter to an annual rate of 1.5 percent, down from 2 percent in the January-March quarter and 4.1 percent in the final three months of 2011.

Most economists say stronger growth is necessary to create enough jobs to lower unemployment.

The economy faces other challenges that may weigh further on growth.

Europe's financial crisis is expected to slow U.S. exports to that region, a direct strike against U.S. manufacturers. The 17 nations that use the euro saw their economies shrink, as a group, in the April-June quarter.

The U.S. may drive off a "fiscal cliff" at the end of this year as well. That's when a slate of tax cuts expire and big spending cuts are scheduled to kick in. If those changes aren't altered or delayed, recession is a very real possibility.

Facebook hits new low as IPO lock-up ends

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Facebook's stock plunged to a new low Thursday as some of the social networking leader's early backers got their first chance to sell their shares since the company's initial public offering went awry.

Analysts interpreted the unusually high trading volume as a clear sign that at least a few of the insiders were seizing on a fresh selling opportunity. That is stirring a debate over whether they're simply locking in long-awaited gains on investments made many years ago or bailing out of a company that has lost its luster.

A breakdown on just how many major Facebook Inc. shareholders sold their stock probably won't be available until next week at the earliest. Securities regulations give them at least three business days before they have to disclose such transactions.

The information is important "because if you are an investor who has been sitting on the sidelines waiting for a good time to buy the stock, you might decide to stay on the sidelines for a little longer after seeing which insiders decided to sell their stock," CapStone Investments analyst Rory Maher said.

All told, investors who owned a combined 271 million Facebook shares could have sold their holdings Thursday with the expiration of a ban known as a lock-up period. The restrictions were imposed on a group of venture capitalists, companies and Silicon Valley cognoscente who invested in Facebook during its formative years and sold some of their holdings three months ago when the company went public at $38.

The highly anticipated IPO had valued the company at $104 billion, similar to those of Amazon.com Inc. and PepsiCo Inc.

The shares have plunged by nearly 50 percent since then amid concerns about whether Facebook is destined to become a passing fancy and worries about whether it will be able to sell more advertising on mobile devices as users gravitate there.

Facebook' stock traded as low as $19.69 before bouncing back slightly. The shares closed Thursday at $19.87, down $1.33, or more than 6 percent. The previous low during the day was $19.82 and the previous low for a close was $20.04, both reached Aug. 2

More than 156 million shares were traded, more than five times the stock's average volume over the past month. Trading in the overall market was lighter than usual.

Study: Companies paid more to CEOs than in US tax

NEW YORK (AP)—Twenty-six big U.S. companies paid their CEOs more last year than they paid the federal government in tax, according to a study released Thursday by a liberal-leaning think tank.

The study, by the Institute for Policy Studies, said the companies, including AT&T, Boeing and Citigroup, paid their CEOs an average of $20.4 million last year while paying little or no federal tax on ample profits, according to regulatory filings.

Some companies cited in the study said it was misleading. They also said they took advantage of tax deductions and credits designed to free up money for companies to spend in ways that stimulate the economy.

On average, the 26 companies generated pretax net income of more than $1 billion in the U.S., the study said.

The study blasted tax rules allowing unlimited deductions for CEO "performance-based" pay, like many stock options. It said the five biggest performance payers among the 26 companies took $232 million of these deductions last year.

Among the "kingpins" it criticized was CEO James McNerney Jr. of Boeing. It said he got $18.4 million in pay last year while his company received a tax refund of $605 million.

The study also laid into Citigroup for paying CEO Vikram Pandit $14.9 million while the bank received a net $144 million in tax benefits.

Eighteen of the 26 companies received cash back or credits to apply against tax in the future, according to the report.

The study, a 45-page attack on the corporate tax code, said deductions and credits are allowing companies to lavish big pay packages on executives so they can cut their tax bills while Washington gets less money in a time of trillion-plus deficits.

"Our nation's tax code has become a powerful enabler of bloated CEO pay," the study said.

To calculate tax, the study used companies' own math based on accounting rules. Regulators require companies to estimate their tax bill and disclose it in public documents for investors.

Nation

Romney: Never paid less than 13 percent in taxes

GREER, S.C. (AP)—Republican presidential contender Mitt Romney declared Thursday he has paid at least 13 percent of his income in federal taxes every year for the past decade, offering that new detail while still decrying a "small-minded" fascination over returns he will not release. President Barack Obama's campaign shot back in doubt: "Prove it."

Campaigning separately, Romney and running mate Paul Ryan also scrambled to explain their views on overhauling Medicare, the health care program relied on by millions of seniors.

Romney, the former company CEO, set up a whiteboard to make his case with a marker, while lawmaker Ryan resorted to congressional process language to explain why his budget plan includes the same $700 billion Medicare cut that he and Romney are assailing Obama for endorsing.

AP

Republican presidential candidate, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney writes on a white board as he talks about Medicare during a news conference at Spartanburg International Airport, Thursday, Aug. 16, 2012, in Greer, S.C .

Essentially, Ryan said, he had to do it because Obama did it first.

Politically, both topics tie into major elements of the presidential race less than three months before the election: how well the candidates relate to the daily concerns and to the life circumstances of typical voters. Democrats are using the tax issue to raise doubts about Romney's trustworthiness—or, as Republicans contend, to distract from a weak economic recovery under Obama.

Romney's comments in South Carolina—at a news conference designed to focus on Medicare—showed that he remains sensitive to criticism of his tax payments but still is determined to release no more than two years of records despite contrary advice from some prominent Republicans.

Undoing Obama Medicare cuts may backfire on Romney

WASHINGTON (AP)—GOP presidential candidate Mitt Romney's new promise to restore the Medicare cuts made by President Barack Obama's health care overhaul law could backfire if he's elected.

The reason: Obama's cuts also extended the life of Medicare's giant trust fund. By repealing them, Romney would move the program's insolvency eight years closer, toward the end of what would be his first term in office.

Instead of running out of money in 2024, Medicare's trust fund for inpatient care would go broke in 2016 without the cuts, according to estimates by the program's own experts.

That could leave a President Romney little political breathing room to execute his own Medicare plan. Outside experts say it could force deeper cuts, and sooner.

The Romney campaign says there's no problem with the candidate's pledge.

"The idea that restoring funding to Medicare could somehow hasten its bankruptcy is on its face absurd," said spokeswoman Andrea Saul.

Campaign officials say arcane federal accounting rules create a false sense of security about Medicare. They allow savings like Obama's cuts to also count toward funding other programs or reducing the overall deficit.

"Gov. Romney's plan is to repeal Obamacare and replace it with patient-centered reforms that control cost throughout the health care system and extend the solvency of Medicare," Saul said. "He will then implement real entitlement reform that places Medicare on a sustainable long-term footing so that future generations of Americans will not have to worry whether the program will be there for them."

ACROSS THE NATION

Holmes doesn't react to talk of struggling victims

CENTENNIAL, Colo. (AP)—The suspect in the Aurora movie shooting showed no emotion in court Thursday as a lawyer discussed a charity's efforts to distribute $4 million it raised for the victims. James Holmes attended the brief procedural hearing in which the prosecution sought the judge's permission to release contact information on the 12 people killed and 58 injured. Most documents in the case have been sealed, so even that step required Judge William Sylvester's approval. "People have been incapacitated or lost family members and are in dire financial straits," prosecutor Rich Orman said.

Motorists rescue woman, sister from burning car

HANCOCK COUNTY, Miss. (AP)—Passing motorists who saw smoke billowing from a stand of pine trees along Interstate 10 in southern Mississippi rescued a woman and her disabled sister trapped inside a wrecked, burning sport utility vehicle. Fifteen to 20 motorists, including a photographer for The Associated Press, helped save the women Thursday afternoon in Hancock County. Photographer Gerald Herbert said the rescuers pulled the disabled woman from the wreck first, but getting the driver out was difficult.

1 man dead from rodent disease at Yosemite

FRESNO, Calif. (AP)—A man died and a woman became seriously ill after contracting a rare rodent-borne disease that might have been linked to their stay at a popular lodging area in Yosemite National Park, officials said Thursday. The man was the first person to die from hantavirus pulmonary syndrome contracted in the park, though two others were stricken in a more remote area in 2000 and 2010, officials said. Testing by the Centers for Disease Control and the California Department of Public Health showed the virus was present in fecal matter from deer mice trapped in Curry Village, an historic, family friendly area of cabins.

Asia

Black Hawk crash kills 7 Americans, 4 Afghans

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—A U.S. military helicopter crashed during a firefight with insurgents in a remote area of southern Afghanistan on Thursday, killing seven Americans and four Afghans in one of the deadliest air disasters of a war now into its second decade. The Taliban claimed they gunned down the Black Hawk.

American service personnel in Afghanistan are dying at a rate of about one per day so far this year despite a drawdown of troops. That death rate has risen recently with the summer fighting season in full gear and a rash of attacks by Afghan security forces on their foreign trainers and partners.

NATO forces said they could not confirm what caused Thursday's crash and stressed that it was still being investigated. The Black Hawk was operating in support of an ongoing assault on the ground but initial indications were that it was not shot down, according to U.S. officials who spoke anonymously because the investigation was continuing.

Taliban spokesman Qari Yousef Ahmadi said insurgent fighters struck the helicopter in Kandahar province on Thursday morning. He declined to give further details in a phone call with The Associated Press.

The Kandahar provincial government backed the Taliban claim. It said the helicopter was shot down in Shah Wali Kot district, a rural area north of Kandahar city where insurgents move freely and regularly launch attacks. Provincial spokesman Ahmad Jawed Faisal did not provide details or say how the province had confirmed the information.

Kandahar is a traditional Taliban stronghold and the spiritual birthplace of the hardline Islamist movement, which ruled Afghanistan before being ousted in 2001 by the U.S.-led alliance for sheltering al-Qaida's leaders.

Thursday's crash came less than a week after six American service members were gunned down, apparently by two members of the Afghan security forces they were training to take over the fight against the insurgency.

Assamese flee south India fearing revenge attacks

BANGALORE, India (AP)—Thousands of panic-stricken Indians from the northeast were fleeing the southern city of Bangalore on Thursday, spurred by rumors they would be attacked in retaliation for communal violence in their home state.

Hundreds of students and workers from Assam state crowded Bangalore's main railway station to try to board trains heading out of the city, while officials tried in vain to assure them of their safety. People pushed and shoved and some climbed in through train windows to make it past the crush at the doors.

The exodus followed clashes in Assam in recent weeks between members of the indigenous Bodo tribe and Muslims that killed more than 50 people and left 400,000 in displacement camps. The violence has spilled to other states where Bodos and other ethnic tribe members from the poor northeast have migrated in search of jobs.

Those fleeing Bangalore said they had heard text messages had been circulating threatening attacks by Muslims.

Jagadish Shettar, chief minister of Karnataka state, met separately with Assamese and Muslim leaders Thursday in an effort to restore calm. Bangalore is the capital of Karnataka.

Shettar said no one had seen any threatening text messages and authorities were trying to find out who was behind the rumors. He said police and security forces were on alert and telephone helplines had been set up to give a sense of security to people in the city.

Despite Shettar's assurances, many from the northeast said they felt insecure.

"As a person from the northeast, we always stick out in a crowd. And sometimes that makes us afraid of being easy targets," said Ganesh Khanal, a garment industry worker trying to board a train at Bangalore railway station.

Khanal said he had been living in Bangalore for nearly three years but was returning to his home in Assam as soon as he could secure a ticket.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Taliban carry out brazen attack on Pakistan base

KAMRA, Pakistan (AP)—Heavily armed Taliban fighters blasted their way into a Pakistani air force base with possible links to the country's nuclear program in a brazen assault that took two hours of fighting to put down, leaving a security officer and nine insurgents dead and underscoring the group's continued threat despite numerous military offensives. Hours later, Taliban gunmen in northern Pakistan forced 20 Shiite Muslims off buses, lined them up and killed them, the latest in a series of sectarian attacks that the government has seemingly done little to stop. The separate incidents emphasize two daunting challenges the nuclear-armed country faces. The Pakistani Taliban continue to pose a potent threat despite numerous military offensives against their sanctuaries along the Afghan border. At the same time, sectarian violence plagues the Sunni majority country where Shiite Muslims often feel under attack.

Japan to deport Chinese activists in isle dispute

TOKYO (AP)—Japan has decided to deport 14 Chinese activists who were arrested this week for landing without authorization on disputed islands in the East China Sea. Chief Cabinet Secretary Osamu Fujimura said Friday that Japan will deport the activists and not press further charges. Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda called the incident "extremely regrettable." Five of the activists were arrested Wednesday after landing on one of the islands. The others who stayed behind were also taken into custody. The uninhabited islands are known as Senkaku in Japanese and Diaoyu in Chinese. They're controlled by Japan but also claimed by China and Taiwan.

World

Ecuador grants asylum to WikiLeaks' Assange

LONDON (AP)—He's won asylum in Ecuador, but Julian Assange is no closer to getting there.

The decision by the South American nation to identify the WikiLeaks founder as a refugee is a symbolic boost for the embattled ex-hacker. But legal experts say that does little to help him avoid extradition to Sweden on sexual assault allegations.

Instead, with British officials asserting they won't grant Assange safe passage out of the country, the case has done much to drag the two nations into an international faceoff.

"We're at something of an impasse," lawyer Rebecca Niblock said. "It's not a question of law anymore. It's a question of politics and diplomacy."

The silver-haired Australian shot to international prominence in 2010 after he began publishing a huge trove of American diplomatic and military secrets—including a quarter million U.S. Embassy cables that shed a harsh light on the backroom dealings of U.S. diplomats. Amid the ferment, two Swedish women accused him of sexual assault; Assange has been fighting extradition to Sweden ever since.

Interpol, the Lyon, France-based international police agency, issued a statement late Thursday saying Assange remains on the equivalent of its most-wanted list, the Ecuadorian decision notwithstanding.

The convoluted saga took its latest twist on Thursday, when Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Ricardo Patino announced that he had granted asylum to Assange, who has been holed up inside the small, coastal nation's embassy since June 19. He said Ecuador was taking action because Assange faces a serious threat of unjust prosecution at the hands of U.S. officials.

That was a nod to the fears expressed by Assange and others that the Swedish sex case is merely the opening gambit in a Washington-orchestrated plot to make him stand trial in the United States—something disputed by both Swedish authorities and the women involved.

AP
A supporter of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange holds up a placard outside the Ecuadorian Embassy in central London, London, Thursday, Aug. 16, 2012.

South African police shoot, kill striking miners

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—South African police opened fire Thursday on a crowd of striking miners that charged a line of officers trying to disperse them, killing some and wounding others in one of the worst shootings by authorities since the end of the apartheid era.

Police declined to offer casualty figures after the shooting at the Lonmin PLC mine near Marikana, a dusty town about 70 kilometers (40 miles) northwest of Johannesburg. However, police ministry spokesman Zweli Mnisi acknowledged late Thursday some of the miners there had been killed as more police and soldiers surrounded the hostels and shacks near Lonmin's shuttered platinum mine.

The shooting happened Thursday afternoon after police failed to get the striking miners to hand over machetes, clubs and other weapons.

Some miners did leave, though others carrying weapons began war chants and soon started marching toward the township near the mine, said Molaole Montsho, a journalist with the South African Press Association who was at the scene.

The police opened up with a water cannon first, then used stun grenades and tear gas to try and break up the crowd, Montsho said.

Wave of attacks rumbles across Iraq, killing 59

BAGHDAD (AP)—Insurgents in Iraq unleashed a relentless wave of attacks from before dawn until late at night Thursday, killing 59 people and wounding many more in a deadly show of force aimed at undermining the government's authority.

The bomb and shooting attacks made for the country's deadliest day in more than three weeks, rattling nerves as families prepared to gather for a holiday weekend. More than 150 people have been killed in violence across the country since the start of August, showing that insurgents led by al-Qaida's Iraqi franchise remain a lethal force eight months after the last U.S. troops left the country.

Five of the attacks accounted for more than half of the casualties.

A morning car bomb in Baghdad's northeastern and mostly Shiite neighborhood of Husseiniyah killed seven people and wounded 31.

Around midday, another car bomb struck near the headquarters of local security forces in the northern city of Daqouq. As police rushed to the scene, a roadside bomb exploded, killing seven policemen. Another 35 people were hurt, police said.

Shortly before sunset, gunmen in cars opened fire on an Iraqi army checkpoint near the town of Mishada, killing seven soldiers and wounding eight. Mishada is 30 kilometers (20 miles) north of Baghdad.

YoungStyle

297-lb Texas boy too big to play peewee football

By LINDA STEWART BALL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MESQUITE, Texas (AP)—A suburban Dallas boy has been barred from playing peewee football because the league says he is just too big at nearly 300 pounds.

Mesquite Pee Wee Football Association President Ronnie Henderson said the rules are clear and 12-year-old Elijah Earnheart is not eligible. The 6-foot-1-inch boy exceeds the 135-pound limit for seventh-graders, and he got the bad news last Sunday when the league held its official weigh-in.

Henderson said he asked Elijah whether he was in sixth or seventh grade, then told him "no need going" any further.

Cindy Earnheart, the boy's mother, said she was incensed and Elijah was humiliated.

"They would not even let him weigh in on the scales like every single boy out there," she said. "He might be the size of a grown man but he's 12 years old and he has feelings, too."

Elijah, who describes himself as a "gentle giant" and dreams of someday playing pro football, said the turn of events was unfair.

"I'm not sad, I'm mad that I don't get to play," Elijah said. "I've been practicing for three weeks."

AP

Twelve-year-old Elijah Earnheart, left, looks on as his mom Cindy Earnheart takes a phone call from his football coach outside his home in Mesquite, Texas, Thursday, Aug. 16, 2012.

Henderson said three other boys were turned away that day because of safety concerns for other players.

"We've got little boys that play against him that are 85, 95 and 100 pounds," Henderson said. "We have to look out for all the kids, not just him."

Cindy Earnheart said her son was feeling self-conscious about his size until he discovered peewee football. His barber happened to coach a team, the Mesquite Vikings, and suggested the boy join. Coach Marc Wright said a passage in the rulebook seemed to indicate that youths who weigh more than 135 pounds could play, but only on the offensive or defensive line.

At his physical last month, Elijah's doctor said he weighed 297 pounds and stood 6-feet-1 1/2 inches tall. His mother said they special-ordered his helmet, shoulder pads, pants and jersey because of his size, which she said is hereditary in her family.

Elijah took the practice field, looming over boys more than half his size, and was thrilled..

When he's playing football Elijah said, "I feel energetic. I feel happy."

He practiced with the Vikings for three weeks and even took part in a scrimmage. Then came the weigh-in.

Henderson said the exception in the rulebook was meant for sixth-graders who can weigh as much as 160 pounds. He suggested Elijah play for his middle school team, but the boy doesn't have much football experience and was hoping to feel his way in peewee first.

Cindy Earnheart said barring her son was discrimination.

"No one is telling boys who are too thin or too small that they can't play football," she said. "Why tell my kid he's too big?

She added: "Isn't bigger better in football? Football is a contact sport. If you don't want your son tackled, get him off the field."

Study: Junk food laws may help curb kids' obesity

By LINDSEY TANNER
AP MEDICAL WRITER

CHICAGO (AP)—Laws strictly curbing school sales of junk food and sweetened drinks may play a role in slowing childhood obesity, according to a study that seems to offer the first evidence such efforts could pay off.

The results come from the first large national look at the effectiveness of the state laws over time. They are not a slam-dunk, and even obesity experts who praised the study acknowledge the measures are a political hot potato, smacking of a "nanny state" and opposed by industry and cash-strapped schools relying on food processors' money.

But if the laws have even a tiny effect, "what are the downsides of improving the food environment for children today?" asked Dr. David Ludwig, an obesity specialist at Harvard Medical School and Boston Children's Hospital. "You can't get much worse than it already is."

Children in the study gained less weight from fifth through eighth grades if they lived in states with strong, consistent laws versus no laws governing snacks available in schools. For example, kids who were 5 feet tall and 100 pounds gained on average 2.2 fewer pounds if they lived in states with strong laws in the three years studied.

Also, children who were overweight or obese in fifth grade were more likely to reach a healthy weight by eighth grade if they lived in states with the strongest laws.

The effects weren't huge, and the study isn't proof that the laws influenced kids' weight. But the results raised optimism among obesity researchers and public health experts who generally applaud strong laws to get junk food out of schools.

"This is the first real evidence that the laws are likely to have an impact," said Dr. Virginia Stallings, director of the nutrition center at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Stallings chaired an Institute of Medicine panel that urged standards for making snack foods and drinks sold in schools more healthful but was not involved in the new research.

AP

Dr. Sarah de Ferranti, director of preventive cardiology at Boston Children's Hospital, left, meets with patient Quinn Voccio, 14, of Newton, Mass., right, in Waltham, Mass., Tuesday, Aug. 7, 2012.

The authors of the study, released online Monday in the journal Pediatrics, analyzed data on 6,300 students in 40 states. Their heights and weights were measured in spring 2004, when they were finishing fifth grade and soon to enter middle school, and in 2007, during the spring of eighth grade.

ONLINE:

Pediatrics: http://www.pediatrics.org
USDA: http://1.usa.gov/z7t5md

The researchers also examined several databases of state laws on school nutrition during the same time. The states were not identified in the study because of database license restrictions that protect the students' confidentiality, the authors said.

The laws governed food and drinks sold in public school vending machines and school stores, outside of mealtime. Laws were considered strong if they included specific nutrition requirements, such as limits on sugar and fats. Laws were rated weak if the requirements were vague and merely urged sales of "healthy" food without specifics.

The results show that for these laws to be effective, they need to be consistently strong in all grades, said lead author Daniel Taber, a health policy researcher at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

In late 2003, 27 of the states studied had no relevant laws affecting middle-schoolers, seven had weak laws and six had strong laws. Several states and school districts enacted tougher laws affecting middle-schoolers and younger kids during the next few years as national concern rose over obesity rates.

Recent data suggest that almost 20 percent of elementary school children nationwide are obese, and the rate among teens is only slightly lower.

In states with consistently strong laws in elementary and middle school, almost 39 percent of fifth-graders were overweight when the study began. That fell to 34 percent in eighth grade. Also, almost 21 percent of fifth-graders were obese, declining to about 18 percent in the eighth grade.

In states with no relevant laws, almost 37 percent of fifth-graders were overweight and 21 percent were obese, and those numbers barely budged by eighth grade.

Boston University statistician Mark Glickman said the study design makes it difficult to reach any convincing conclusions. It's possible, for example, that stronger laws might be more prevalent in Democratic-leaning states with better-educated residents, and less obesity. But the study authors said they found stronger laws in states that had high levels of obesity.

The authors accounted for gender, race, income and school location.

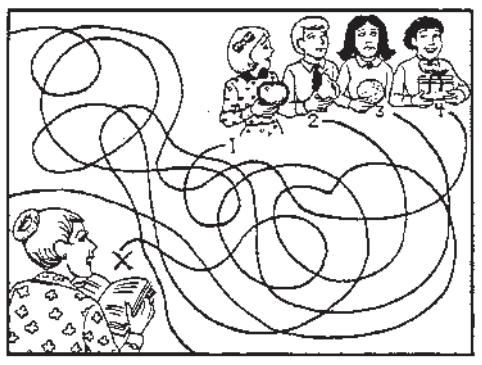
Taber noted that several Southern states have been the most aggressive at targeting school junk food, "probably because they have the highest rates of obesity."

Ludwig, the Boston obesity specialist, praised the researchers for trying to "tackle a complicated question."

"The challenge is that there are a great many factors that coalesce to influence body weight," Ludwig said. "Disentangling these influences and looking at the independent effects of just one is a methodological nightmare."

Junior Whirl

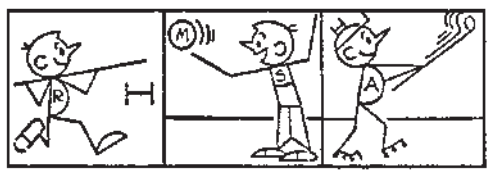
by Hal Kaufman



PRESENT TENSE! Which one of four gift-bearers above gets to deliver a present? Pick a person, then trace that route.

KWICKY KWIZ! What state's name contains the name of another state? Answer in 30 seconds.

Arkansas (Kansas).



TRY LETTER-MAN CHALLENGE

EACH of the three athletes above is a letter-man of sorts. That is to say, contained in the panel depicting each one are the six or seven letters of the person's name.

One is named Charles, one is named Richard, and the third is named Thomas, but not necessarily in that order.

Look for a letter E to avoid confusing Richard with Charles.

Let's see how quickly you can find appropriate letters in each panel to name each person.

No fair peeking below.

Richard is at left, Thomas in the middle and Charles at right.

PITY PATTER! There is a three-word question made up of the nine letters in the word POSITIVELY to which the word POSITIVELY might also be the answer. What is the question?

How about "Is pity love?"

1-5 SPOT! You are asked to insert the numbers 1-5 in blank spaces of the diagram shown so that when totaled in any direction — horizontally, vertically or diagonally — a sum of 15 will result.

Oh yes, there is one more condition: Each row must contain all five numbers — 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

Digits shown remain in place.

As a clue, let it be known that digits 2 and 4 occupy opposite corners. Give it a try.

Time limit: 1-5 minutes.

1				
	2			
		3		
			4	
				5

Across: 13524, 52413, 41352, 35241, 24135, will do it.

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Acupuncture for pets?

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I recently read an advertisement by a pet hospital that is offering acupuncture for pets. Does this even work for pets? I'm skeptical.—Janice T., Orlando, Fla.

DEAR JANICE: I can't say for sure, but the idea of providing acupuncture treatment for pets is intriguing. Acupuncture has been shown to have positive results for humans trying to manage pain, and some anecdotal reports indicate that acupuncture might help reduce pain in animals, as well.

Wadsworth Animal Hospital in Lakewood, Colo., for example, recently reported that as many as 75 percent of the pets in its care treated with acupuncture experienced "a significant or major improvement, although some symptoms may remain."

The hospital used acupuncture to treat pets suffering from arthritis, hip dysplasia, nerve damage or other chronic health conditions.

Pet acupuncture sounds pretty odd, and it's really a new type of treatment for pets, coming into vogue just in the past few decades. But it's not the only holistic pet treatment out there that looks to help improve pets' health without the use of drugs or surgery. And it's growing in popularity: some 800 pet acupuncturists are registered with the American Academy of Veterinary Acupuncture (http://www.aava.org), the Washington Post reports, an increase of 600 since 2002.

So, how do you find a qualified acupuncturist for your pet? The AAVA has a listing on its site, but be sure to ask questions of the pet acupuncturist you find locally. He or she should be certified to practice veterinary medicine as well as veterinary acupuncture.

■ ■ ■

Send your questions or comments to ask@pawscorner.com, or write to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. For more pet care-related advice and information, visit www.pawscorner.com.

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Strange BUT TRUE

by Samantha Weaver

■ It's still not known who made the following sage observation: "To succeed in politics, it is sometimes necessary to rise above your principles."

■ It was beloved American poet Robert Frost who made the following sage observation: "A bank is a place where they lend you an umbrella in fair weather and ask for it back when it begins to rain."

■ In 1938, Time magazine featured Adolph Hitler on the cover as its Man of the Year.

■ You might be surprised at some of the amazing feats that can be accomplished with the aid of modern medicine. In 2008, two women in India gave birth at the age of 70. With the aid of egg donation and postmenopausal in vitro fertilization, Rajo Devi Lohan gave birth to her only child, a girl. Charan Singh Panwar and his wife, Omkari Panwar, already had two daughters and five grandchildren, but they wanted a son. Using the same procedure, Omkari had twins, a boy and a girl.

■ The first time a toilet was ever seen on television was in the pilot episode of "Leave It to Beaver," in 1957.

■ The most common name in the world is Muhammed.

■ If you live in the South, home of huge roaches, you probably won't be surprised to learn that a cockroach can live for a week without a head. When the headless insect does finally die, it's from starvation, not from the loss of its head.

■ Those who study such things say that there are 45,000 chickens for every person on the planet.

■ ■ ■

Thought for the Day: "The reason that adulation is not displeasing is that, though untrue, it shows one to be of consequence enough, in one way or other, to induce people to lie."—Lord Byron

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MAGIC MAZE ● MATERIALS RECYCLED

L	Q	N	K	H	E	B	C	Y	V	S	P	M	M	J
H	E	B	B	Y	V	S	O	T	N	I	A	P	T	Q
O	L	I	R	G	S	D	P	B	Y	O	L	W	T	R
P	M	K	I	A	F	R	P	D	F	A	U	B	Y	W
U	S	Q	L	L	S	A	E	O	S	O	M	M	K	I
F	D	G	R	E	P	S	R	T	B	Z	I	X	T	W
U	S	Q	R	E	K	Y	I	E	U	O	N	N	E	L
J	H	I	R	T	T	C	D	F	B	P	U	D	P	C
A	T	Y	W	S	S	A	I	V	T	B	M	S	R	Q
P	N	L	K	I	E	H	W	N	F	E	U	O	A	C
B	Z	Y	W	L	V	U	S	R	Q	P	N	R	C	M

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Aluminum	Copper	Paper	Styrofoam
Brass	Glass	Plastics	Tires
Carpet	Nickel	Rubber	Water
Computers	Paint	Steel	

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	−		×		28
+		+		×	
	−		×		21
÷		+		−	
	−		×		28
3		6		21	

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 7 9

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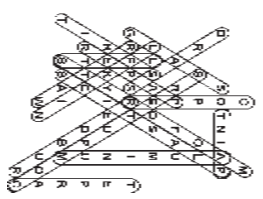
MAGIC MAZE ANSWER



GO FIGURE ANSWER

28	4	×	2	−	9
	×		+		+
21	7	×	3	−	6
	−		+		÷
28	7	×	1	−	5
	21		6		3

Easy two-toned garden soup

"The best tasting soups of summer are the simplest to make," said 28-year-old chef Becca Berroteran recently to a group of moms at Mission Springs Conference Center in Scotts Valley, Calif. "And each bowlful can look like a work of art, too," she added.

In a nod to her Mexican heritage, we watched attentively as she ladled red pepper soup into one side of a soup bowl while at the same time ladling a fresh zucchini soup in the other.

"Busy families can make a two-toned garden soup in less than an hour on the stove or microwave," she said as she grabbed a squeeze bottle to demonstrate the garnish. "Kids love to top the servings with cream sauce designs and swirls or let them simply add popcorn or crunched chips."

Here are the basic how-tos. Add your favorite fresh herbs and seasonings to make the soup your own, and then have fun impressing your next dinner guests.

TWO-TONED GARDEN SOUP

Zucchini Soup ingredients
3 medium zucchini, roughly chopped
2 cups chicken broth
1/2 cup chopped yellow onion
1/2 tablespoon chopped fresh garlic
Salt and pepper

Bring the zucchini, broth, onions, garlic and seasonings to a boil, stirring frequently. Simmer until zucchini is soft, about 20 minutes. Use immersion hand blender to blend.

Roasted Red Pepper Soup ingredients

2 (12-ounce) jars fire roasted red peppers, drained
2 cups beef broth
Tapatio hot sauce (optional)

Cook peppers and beef stock until heated through. Use immersion hand blender to blend.

Ladle hot soups simultaneously into each half of a soup bowl, then "paint" designs with avocado cream sauce.

Avocado Cream Sauce

Stir together 1/4 mashed ripe avocado, 2 tablespoons sour cream, 1/8 teaspoon cumin and a splash of milk to make it "squeezable." Spoon into a squeeze bottle and create these easy designs on top of the two-tone soup. Makes 8 to 10 servings.

Hearts

Squeeze out several dime-size dots. Dip into the middle of a dot with a chopstick or skewer and drag down to form a heart. Continue to the next dot.

Starburst

Squeeze a quarter-size dot in the center of the soup. Dip a toothpick in the center and lightly drag out to make a line. Repeat in all directions.

ABC's

Squeeze the shape of the first letter of names of each guest on the soup. Set the bowls around the table when you are ready to eat for edible place cards.

Tip: Prepared ranch dressing is a quick substitute for the avocado cream sauce.

■ ■ ■

Donna Erickson's award-winning series "Donna's Day" is airing on public television nationwide. To find more of her creative family recipes and activities, visit www.donnasday.com and link to the NEW Donna's Day Facebook fan page. Her latest book is "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families."

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Life & Style

Court: 'Desperate Housewives' star wasn't fired

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Nicollette Sheridan was not wrongfully fired from TV's "Desperate Housewives," an appeals court ruled Thursday, but the actress should be allowed to pursue claims that she was retaliated against for complaining that the show's creator struck her.

A three-justice panel of the 2nd District Court of Appeal agreed with attorneys for ABC and Touchstone Television that Sheridan left the show when her contract was not renewed after the show's fifth season, and that barred the actress from receiving a new trial of her wrongful termination lawsuit.

"Sheridan cannot pursue a cause of action for wrongful termination in violation of public policy because, contrary to what she claims, she was not fired, discharged or terminated," the court wrote in a 10-page ruling.

The court, however, ruled that Sheridan should be allowed to file an amended lawsuit claiming retaliation, although her damages would be limited to her salary losses.

AP

In this March 13, 2012 file photo, "Desperate Housewives" star, Nicollette Sheridan arrives at court in Los Angeles.

Adam Levin, an attorney for ABC and Touchstone, wrote in an email that he expects the companies would win again if Sheridan kept pursuing the case. Sheridan's attorney Mark Baute did not return a phone message seeking comment.

The ruling was the latest twist in Sheridan's case, which was first filed in April 2010. She later claimed she was fired after complaining that series creator Marc Cherry struck in the head during an on-set argument.

Cherry and ABC denied the claims, and a judge threw out the battery claim against Cherry. In March, jurors deadlocked after a two-week trial on her wrongful termination allegations, with the panel siding 8-4 in favor of the actress.

"Desperate Housewives" concluded its eight-season run this year.

Sheridan received $4.2 million on her last season of the series, and the studio had options to renew her contract to play the character Edie Britt through the seventh season.

Baute argued that she had recently received a raise and a share of the show's profits but fell out of favor with Cherry and other show executives after complaining about his conduct.

Rep: Bobby Brown in rehab after March DUI arrest

AP

In this Feb. 18, 2012 file photo, singer Bobby Brown, former husband of the late Whitney Houston performs with New Edition at Mohegan Sun Casino in Uncasville, Conn.

NEW YORK (AP)—Bobby Brown has checked himself into rehab.

Brown's representative said in an email Thursday that the R&B singer checked into a "confidential rehabilitation center" last week as part of his agreement following his March arrest for drunken driving in Los Angeles.

His publicist says that Brown's plea agreement in the case requires that he requires that he get treatment for alcohol use. His attorney Christopher Brown says in a statement that Brown "takes his agreement very seriously."

The 43-year-old singer is the former husband of Whitney Houston, who died this year. He married his manager Alicia Etheredge-Brown in June.

Brown still plans to perform scheduled solo concerts and tour with his group New Edition. His first album in 14 years came out this summer.

Ex-porn star Jameson pleads guilty to DUI

WESTMINSTER, Calif. (AP)—Former adult film star Jenna Jameson has pleaded guilty to driving under the influence when she struck a light pole in Southern California.

Jameson was sentenced Thursday to three years of informal probation and ordered to pay $340 in fines and participate in a Mothers Against Drunk Driving "victims' impact panel."

A misdemeanor charge of driving without a valid license was dismissed.

Jameson was arrested May 25 after her Range Rover struck the pole in Westminster, resulting in minor injuries. Prosecutors in Orange County say tests showed her blood-alcohol level was 0.13 percent. That's above the state's legal limit of 0.08 percent.

Jameson's attorney, John Kremer, tells City News Service that Jameson is apologetic and thankful nobody was seriously hurt.

Jameson crossed into the mainstream after publishing a popular autobiography in 2004.

AP

In this file photo released by Disney, Samuel L. Jackson portrays Nick Fury in a scene from Marvel's "The Avengers."

'Avengers' sequel planned for May 2015

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"The Avengers" are returning for a superhero sequel three years from now.

Disney and its Marvel Studios unit announced Thursday that the follow-up to this year's biggest hit will arrive in theaters on May 1, 2015.

The studio announced last week that Joss Whedon will be back to write and direct the as-yet-untitled sequel.

Released in May, "The Avengers" gathered such Marvel comic-book heroes as Iron Man (Robert Downey Jr.), Captain America (Chris Evans), the Hulk (Mark Ruffalo) and Thor (Chris Hemsworth). The film has taken in nearly $1.5 billion worldwide.

There will be plenty of Marvel action building up to "The Avengers" follow-up. Downey's "Iron Man 3" is due out next May, followed by Hemsworth's "Thor" sequel in November 2013 and Evans' "Captain America" sequel in April 2014.

Girl is grossed out by night noises from parents' room

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DearAbby

DEAR ABBY: One night I woke up to my cat scratching at my bedroom door to be let in. When I got up and opened the door, I heard my parents making love. They were so loud it grossed me out, because my little sister is 10 and we share a room right next to theirs. She still doesn't know about this kind of stuff.

I want to tell them they don't need to be doing that, because what if she got scared and woke up and tried to go in there? What should I do —tell them to go to a motel?

GROSSED OUT IN MADISON, MISS.

DEAR GROSSED OUT: Do NOT tell your parents to go to a motel. If the cat hadn't wakened you and you hadn't opened your bedroom door, you wouldn't have heard a thing. Be glad that you have parents who love each other and that you didn't overhear them fighting.

If your sister ever wakes up and gets scared, she should know she can wake you up.

P.S. At age 10, your sister shouldn't be completely in the dark about the facts of life. And the person who should be talking to her about them is her mother.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I have an aunt (by marriage) who I think may be suffering from mental issues. All of a sudden, she is calling members of our family and telling them that "so-and-so" (it varies) is talking about them behind their backs. Of course, none of it is true, but it has caused a huge rift in our family. Family members have had big arguments over these calls.

The aunt is in her mid-50s and has always been quiet and sweet to everyone, so of course when someone gets a call, the person tends to believe her. This is tearing our family to pieces, and no one knows for sure if she's having problems or if she is telling the truth.

HELP! My cousins are no longer speaking to one another or me. I'm not close to her, but I have fallen prey to her phone calls to others. What should I do?

SLANDERED IN INDIANA

DEAR SLANDERED: A sudden change in personality can indeed be a sign of mental illness or a physical problem. Those family members who ARE still speaking to one another should approach the uncle to whom the woman is married and express the family's concerns. She may need a physical and neurological evaluation. (And the cousins need to mend fences.) How sad.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Have you ever dealt with work addiction in your column? Many mental health care professionals do not take workaholism seriously—probably because many of them suffer from the problem themselves.

I recently researched the topic because the behavior of a close friend was making our relationship suffer. Workaholics Anonymous exists, and some books have been written on the subject. Perhaps you could spread the word.

CARING FRIEND IN SAN FRANCISCO

DEAR CARING FRIEND: I'm pleased to do that. Workaholics Anonymous is an international organization that was founded in 1983. It's a 12-step program based on the principles of Alcoholics Anonymous for individuals who feel their work lives have gotten out of control. It offers mutual support in solving problems related to compulsive overworking, and it also helps families and friends who are affected.

To find out about weekly meetings and group development guidelines, contact Workaholics Anonymous, P.O. Box 289, Menlo Park, CA 94026; call 510-273-9253; or go to www.workaholics-anonymous.org.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

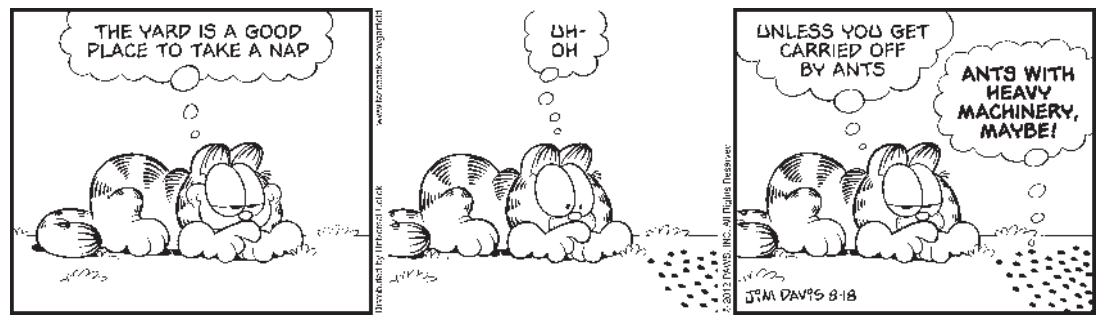
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

WHEE HEE HEE
SPLOOSHH
OH, WHAT AN AWFUL THING I DID! HOW I REGRET IT NOW! I HEREBY RESOLVE TO CHANGE MY EVIL WAYS. OH REMORSE, REMORSE!
MY PENITENT SINNER SHTICK NEEDS WORK.

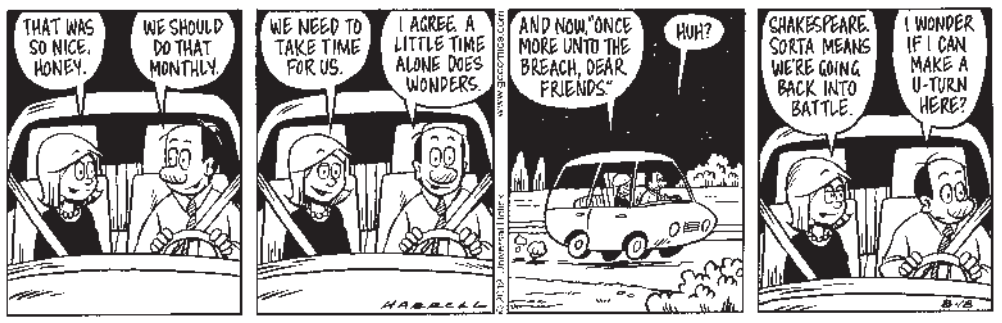
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



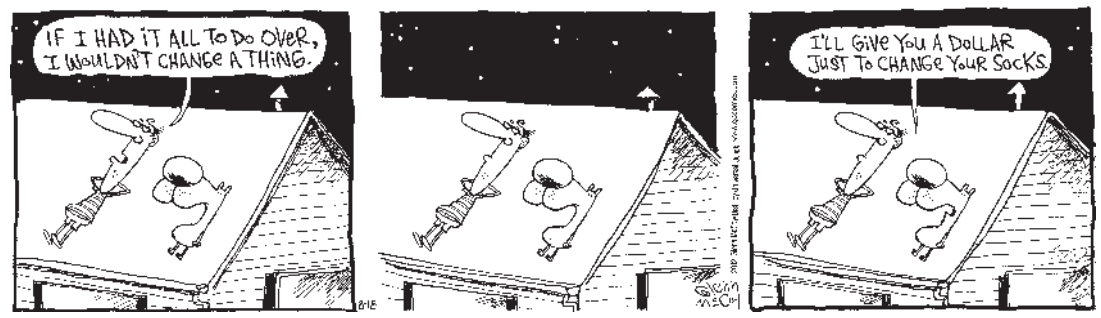
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


THAT WAS SO NICE, HONEY.
WE SHOULD DO THAT MONTHLY.
WE NEED TO TAKE TIME FOR US.
I AGREE. A LITTLE TIME ALONE DOES WONDERS.
AND NOW, "ONCE MORE UNTO THE BREACH, DEAR FRIENDS."
HUH?
SHAKESPEARE. SORTA MEANS WE'RE GOING BACK INTO BATTLE.
I WONDER IF I CAN MAKE A U-TURN HERE?

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

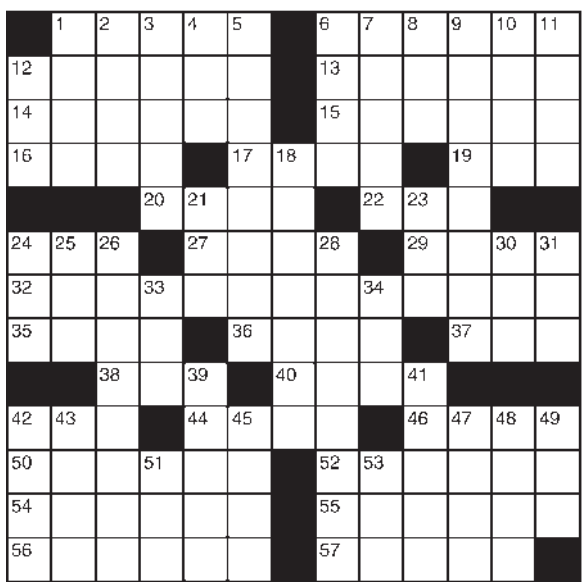
ACROSS
1 Make sense
6 Death-feigning critter
12 Book size
13 Stir up
14 Briefs, e.g.
15 Clincher
16 On
17 Fat
19 Preceding
20 Skewer
22 Screw up
24 Type squares
27 Footnote abbr.
29 The Tent-maker
32 "American Grown" writer
35 Small combo
36 Pound sounds
37 Pinch
38 Masseur's workplace
40 Jog
42 Bro's counter-part
44 "The Naked Maja" painter
46 Bum
50 Wor-shipped
52 Knave
54 Verb acting as a noun
55 Grommet
56 Liabilities' opposites
57 Thermos-like flask

DOWN
1 Family member
2 Pedestal part
3 Plumbing problems
4 Salt Lake athlete
5 Maybe
6 Wear a rut in the rug
7 Speechify
8 Bribe
9 Role for Reeve or Reeves
10 Addict
11 Unembel-lished
12 Sine-non link
18 Electric company, e.g.
21 Slapstick missile
23 Plagiarize
24 Ambu-lance VIP
25 Soviet space station
26 Salon tool
28 Perverted
30 Parisian pal
31 Knock
33 Go like a kangaroo
34 Barcelona bear
39 Repre-sentative
41 Pitched
42 Long story
43 Mid-month date
45 Probabil-ity
47 — podrida
48 Milwau-kee product
49 Mel of Coopers-town
51 Regret
53 Sailor's assent

Solution time: 27 mins.

J	E	T		I	A	S	I		W	E	S	T
A	P	E		A	R	I	A		A	K	I	N
B	E	R	I	B	E	R	I		G	E	N	T
S	E	N	D	I	N		R	H	O			
			E	T	A		C	A	N	C	A	N
A	T	L	A	S		T	U	G		O	H	O
B	O	I	L		T	U	T		C	H	E	N
A	G	E		S	E	X		P	R	O	M	O
B	O	N	B	O	N		I	R	A			
			A	S	S		N	I	M	B	U	S
E	A	S	T		P	A	G	O	P	A	G	O
B	L	O	C		O	D	O	R		I	L	L
B	E	T	H		T	O	T	S		L	Y	E

Yesterday's answer 8-18



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99c per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Tyler McGill, 25; Andy Samberg, 34; Denis Leary, 55; Robert Redford, 76.

Happy Birthday: You must be sure the choices you make are the best for you before moving forward. Excess and deception will lead to downfall. Keep life simple and projects and pastimes doable. Project what you truly think, and ask questions if you feel you are being given false information. Your numbers are 7, 10, 19, 23, 25, 38, 42.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Choose a different type of entertainment and you will engage in conversations with people who provoke your interest. The practical application of an idea can simplify your plans and potentially lead to an increase in income. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): A physical or mental challenge will boost your emotional wellness, but it can also cause a conflict with someone who has tested your patience in the past. A calm approach will throw the competition off. Play to win. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Making alterations to your living space will help settle your restlessness, but it may also cause an emotional setback with someone who doesn't like change. Getting out and making new friends or pursuing interesting goals will lift your spirits. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): You'll instinctively know what to do regarding personal and emotional matters that crop up. Don't let the changes going on around you cause insecurity or pressure you to follow suit. You are best to stick to what works best for you. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Take care of chores and responsibilities that are tying you down and causing concern. Putting things behind you will help open up time and bring opportunities to follow more enjoyable pursuits that are in your best interest. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Review your personal paperwork and you will find a way to improve your financial situation. Don't let emotions drive a decision that needs to be made regarding your personal or professional position or association with others. Rethink your strategy. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Being open to alternative ideas will help you convince others to use some of your suggestions as well. Searching for a better way of life or beliefs that resonate along the same path you are on will enhance your journey. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Refuse to let anyone take advantage of you financially, emotionally or with regard to services or skills you have to offer. Nurture an important relationship, and you will find the support, strength and courage to reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): An emotional situation will cause you to miss out on a good time. You need to make changes in your personal life if something or someone is holding you back or stifling your ability to grow mentally, spiritually or financially. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Don't sign up for something you'll regret. You don't need to take on more responsibilities. Put your energy into reaching long-term goals that have been put on the back burner due to time constraints. Satisfy your needs first. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Spend time with someone special. Pooling resources will help you get more for less. Broadening your outlook or making a move to lower your overhead will bring you closer to reaching your life goals. A partnership looks promising. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Take heed of advice being offered. Don't let your emotions stand in the way of doing what's best for everyone involved. A love relationship can go either way, depending on how reasonable you are. Make love, not war. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are particular, unusual and sensitive. You are creative and caring.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			2	1	3			
1		7				6		4
		8				5		
	2						9	
		1		7		4		
	6						7	
		4				8		
6		3				1		7
			1	4	6			

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/18

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	5	1	8	3	6	2	4	7
6	7	8	2	5	4	1	9	3
2	3	4	1	9	7	8	5	6
8	4	9	6	2	3	7	1	5
7	1	3	4	8	5	6	2	9
5	6	2	7	1	9	3	8	4
4	2	7	5	6	1	9	3	8
3	8	6	9	4	2	5	7	1
1	9	5	3	7	8	4	6	2

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/17

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

IN-LAWS ARE WONDERFUL Solution: 7 letters

L	M	H	D	N	O	B	R	O	T	H	E	R	P	E
P	A	R	E	N	T	M	T	I	S	Y	B	A	B	E
E	R	V	C	L	E	A	R	M	B	T	R	G	F	V
V	R	E	O	S	P	L	O	R	R	T	N	S	A	I
O	I	A	N	R	E	M	B	O	N	I	I	N	T	T
P	A	S	H	I	P	I	P	E	D	M	Y	O	H	I
E	G	I	I	S	W	P	R	N	P	A	T	S	E	S
N	E	S	E	T	U	T	A	A	C	A	R	T	R	O
M	C	T	C	S	C	T	R	C	D	E	A	F	E	P
I	D	E	I	A	S	T	Ⓔ	E	F	N	P	I	L	R
N	E	R	N	R	I	P	A	Ⓕ	T	A	U	G	I	I
D	T	D	E	A	T	E	O	L	Ⓘ	N	M	O	A	V
E	I	D	L	I	S	T	E	N	K	Ⓦ	I	I	B	A
D	N	O	N	J	U	D	G	M	E	N	T	A	L	C
U	U	G	U	I	D	A	N	C	E	V	O	L	E	Y

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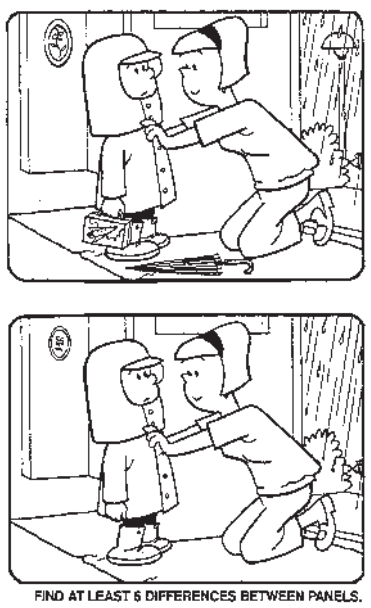
Accepting, Approval, Babysit, Blend, Bond, Boundaries, Brother, Candid, Clear, Family, Father, Gifts, Guidance, Help, Impartial, Intertwine, Listen, Love, Marriage, Moms, Nice, Nonjudgmental, Offers, Open Minded, Parent, Partner, Party, Positive, Privacy, Reliable, Share, Sister, Sons, Support, Talk, Understanding, United, Visit, Wife

Yesterday's Answer: Luxrail

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.

Differences: 1. Picture is different. 2. Lunch box is missing. 3. Umbrella is missing. 4. Sleeves are shorter. 5. Shoe is different. 6. Lamppost is missing.

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Wishing Well®

5	3	5	2	5	7	3	7	5	3	2	5	3
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7	5	8	5	3	6	7	4	3	5	3	7	2
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R	U	E	L	E	D	Y	G	A	W	M	R	O
3	8	4	8	4	6	2	6	2	7	2	7	3
E	I	N	N	A	O	U	R	C	A	A	T	T
6	2	8	4	7	6	4	7	4	6	7	4	6
T	N	D	H	I	H	E	O	A	I	N	D	T

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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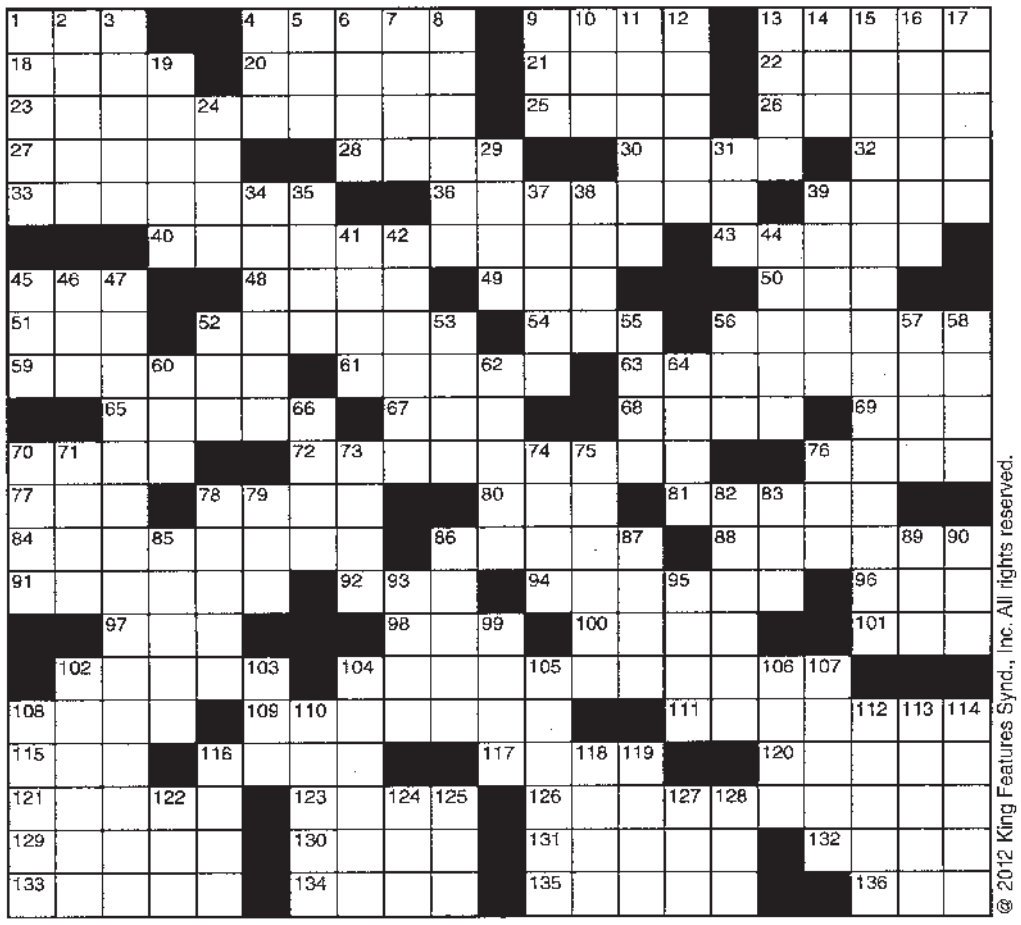
Super Crossword

HOOFERS

ACROSS
1 Martin Sheen, to Emilio Estevez
4 Photo tint
9 Pipe part
13 TV's "The — of Life"
18 Baal or Elvis
20 Bonus
21 Soccer superstar
22 Cold sound
23 Dancing president?
25 Landed
26 Range rope
27 — a customer
28 Whip
30 Tranquil
32 —4 (Toyota model)
33 Little lumps
36 Fawning
39 Parisian pronoun
40 Dancing colonist?
43 Go Fish and golf
45 Comic DeLuise
48 Muse with a scroll
49 Command to a corgi
50 Meyerbeer's "— Huguenots"
51 Prospector's prize
52 "The Twelve —" ('70 film)
54 At once
56 Freezin' season
59 Finger food
61 Trickles
63 Short story
65 Cognizant
67 In the manner of
68 Bare
69 Start to snooze
70 Viva —
72 Dancing comic?
76 "— of Gold" ('70 hit)
77 Gray matter?
78 Northwestern st.
80 Philips of "UHF"
81 Tonto's horse
84 More disreputable
86 Director Lang
88 Flusters
91 Percussion instrument
92 Feel awful
94 Bean
96 Make cheddar better
97 Prohibit
98 Wine vessel
100 Yuletide
101 Piglet's parent
102 Hunt or Hayes
104 Dancing boxer?
108 Kid at court
109 Hailing from Hunan
111 Mention briefly
115 Aussie walker
116 Space
117 Assistance
120 Spanish guitarist
121 "Crazy" singer
123 Widespread
126 Dancing cartoonist?
129 Neighbor of Somalia
130 Singer Phoebe
131 Entertain
132 Sour fruit
133 Novelist Danielle
134 Bronte heroine
135 Aden's locale
136 Minnesota twins?

DOWN
1 Mustard type
2 Hersey setting
3 Like the Taj Mahal
4 Use a straw
5 Word form for "environment"
6 It may be bitter
7 "— Dinka Doo" ('33 song)
8 '92 Wimbledon winner
9 Health resort
10 — Aviv
11 Draw forth
12 Copper or cobalt
13 "Green Acres" setting
14 "Stroker —" ('83 film)
15 Dancing body-builder?
16 Wrecks the Rolls
17 Italian wine
19 Abate
24 Seafood selection
29 Coop crowd
31 Pantyhose part
34 Rembrandt or Whistler
35 Ward of "Sisters"
37 Wreckage
38 Reject
39 Touch up the text
41 Journalist Jacob
42 Jeanne of "Jules and Jim"
44 Mrs. Kramden
45 Bandleader Severinsen
46 ". . . man — mouse?"
47 Dancing statesman?
52 Numbers pro
53 Push a product
55 Trick stick
56 Tie the knot
57 Thames town
58 Funnyman Foxx
60 Veneration
62 Less vivid
64 Van —, CA
66 Piece of fencing?
70 Enormous
71 European capital
73 Akbar's city
74 "— the Mood for Love" ('35 song)
75 "— bet!"
76 Sprout
78 It's up in the air
79 Volcano part
82 Peruvian port
83 Keats composition
85 Dickens title start
86 Peel off
87 Move like mad
89 Self-esteem
90 Make a muumuu
93 Psychologist Pavlov
95 Obligation
99 TV host John
102 Village
103 Sgt. or cpl.
104 Disney cricket
105 Margin
106 Mallard or teal
107 Suffers
108 Acts like a chicken
110 Neighsayer?
112 Actress Berry
113 Synthetic textile
114 "The Highwayman" poet
116 Genuine
118 Fancy fabric
119 Horner's fruit
122 Carrie or Louis
124 On behalf of
125 Ovine female
127 Poetic monogram
128 — Buddhism



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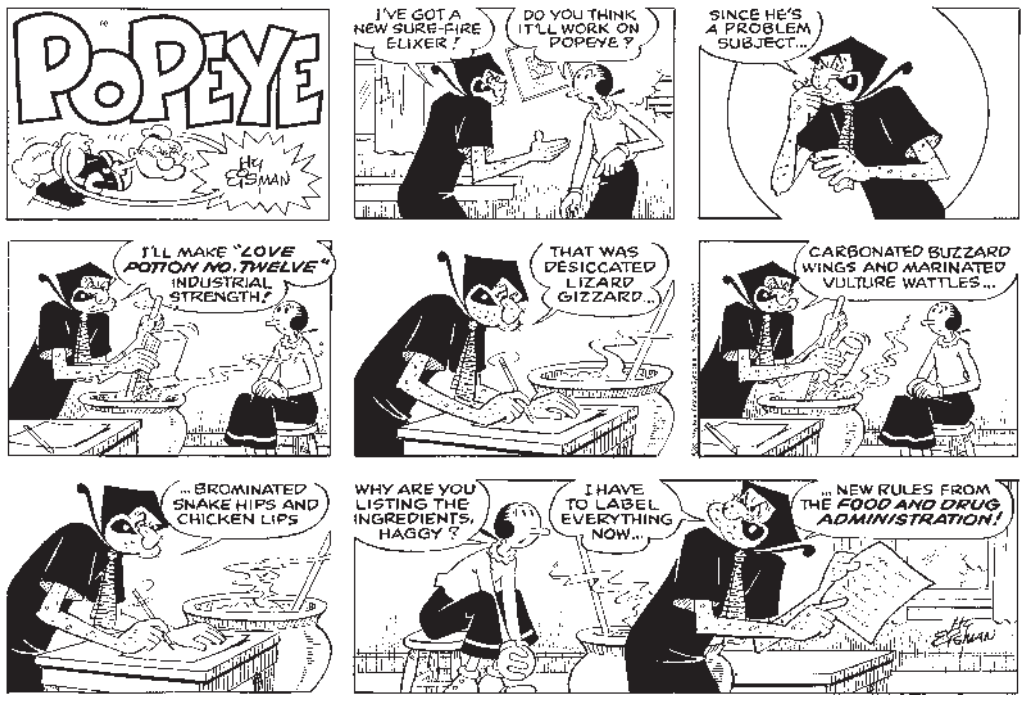
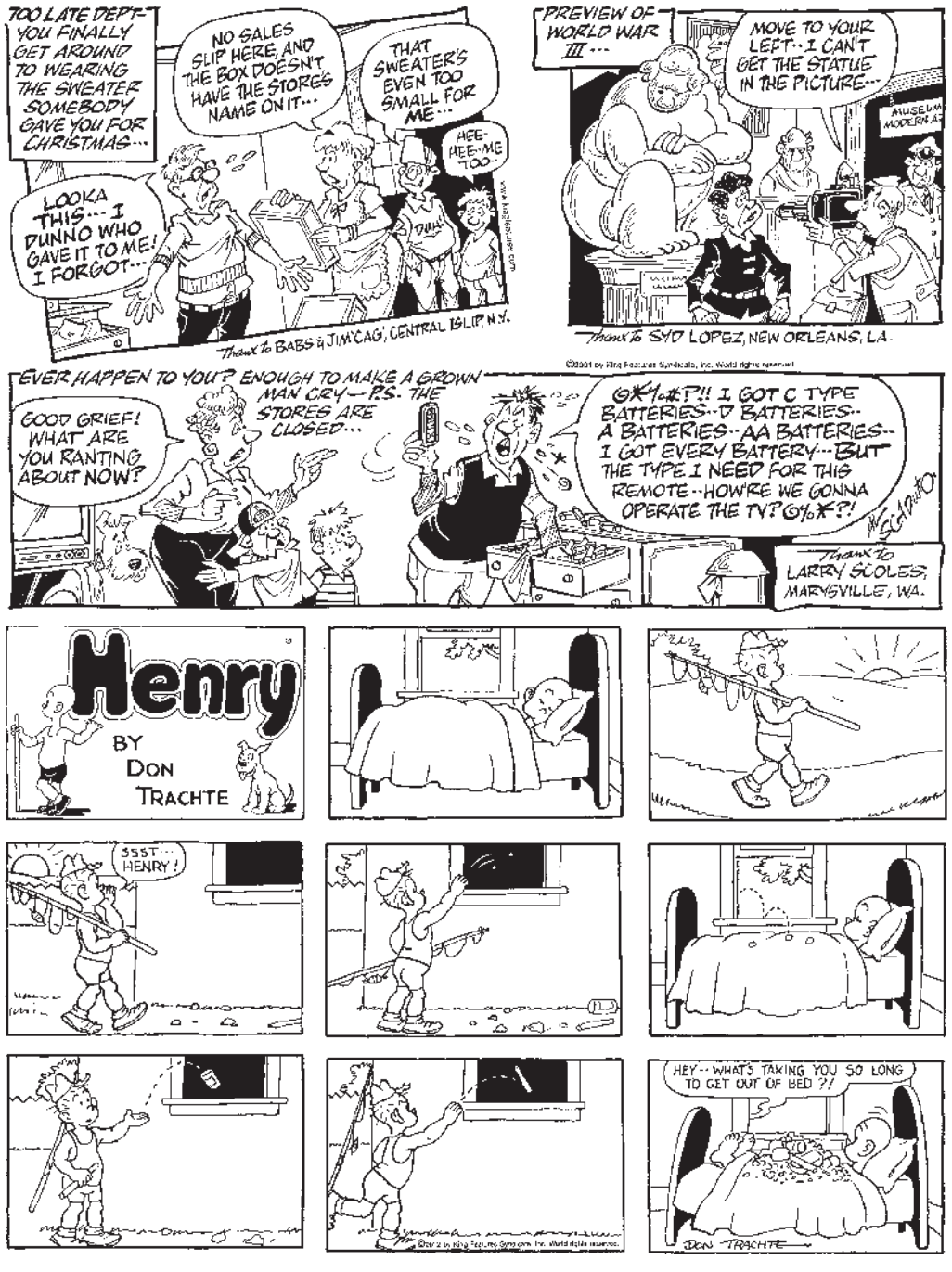

POPEYE
Hey EISMAN
I'VE GOT A NEW SURE-FIRE ELIXER!
DO YOU THINK IT'LL WORK ON POPEYE?
SINCE HE'S A PROBLEM SUBJECT...
I'LL MAKE "LOVE POTION NO. TWELVE" INDUSTRIAL STRENGTH!
THAT WAS DESICCATED LIZARD GIZZARD...
CARBONATED BUZZARD WINGS AND MARINATED VULTURE WATTLES...
...BROMINATED SNAKE HIPS AND CHICKEN LIPS
WHY ARE YOU LISTING THE INGREDIENTS, HAGGY?
I HAVE TO LABEL EVERYTHING NOW...
...NEW RULES FROM THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION!

They'll Do It Every Time

by Al Scaduto


TOO LATE DEPT- YOU FINALLY GET AROUND TO WEARING THE SWEATER SOMEBODY GAVE YOU FOR CHRISTMAS...
NO SALES SLIP HERE, AND THE BOX DOESN'T HAVE THE STORE'S NAME ON IT...
THAT SWEATER'S EVEN TOO SMALL FOR ME...
AWW-WWW-ME TOO...
LOOKA THIS... I DUNNO WHO GAVE IT TO ME! I FORGOT...
Thanx to BABS & JIM CAG, CENTRAL ISLIP, N.Y.
PREVIEW OF WORLD WAR III...
MOVE TO YOUR LEFT.. I CAN'T GET THE STATUE IN THE PICTURE...
Thanx to SYD LOPEZ, NEW ORLEANS, LA.
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EVER HAPPEN TO YOU? ENOUGH TO MAKE A GROWN MAN CRY—P.S. THE STORES ARE CLOSED...
GOOD GRIEF! WHAT ARE YOU RANTING ABOUT NOW?
G%K!@#&P!! I GOT C TYPE BATTERIES.. D BATTERIES.. A BATTERIES.. AA BATTERIES.. I GOT EVERY BATTERY.. BUT THE TYPE I NEED FOR THIS REMOTE.. HOW'RE WE GONNA OPERATE THE TV? G%&P?!
Thanx to LARRY SCOLES, MARYSVILLE, WA.

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. FOOD & DRINK: What is French "pate de foie gras" made from?
2. GEOGRAPHY: The island of Madagascar lies in what body of water?
3. LANGUAGE: What is a similar way to describe a "ribald" joke?
4. AD SLOGANS: What movie was promoted with the slogan, "Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the water"?
5. HUMAN ANATOMY: What is the most common type of blood?
6. POLITICS: What longtime Ohio senator was known as "Mr. Republican"?
7. LITERARY: What famous author used the pen name "Boz" in his early career?
8. MOVIES: Which three actors have starred in major roles as Inspector Clouseau in the Pink Panther movies?
9. CHEMISTRY: What does the "Ag" stand for in the chemical symbol for silver?
10. HISTORY: When did Queen Anne's War (Third Indian War) begin in colonial America?

Answers
1. Goose or duck liver
2. Indian Ocean
3. Vulgar
4. "Jaws II"
5. O positive
6. Robert A. Taft
7. Charles Dickens
8. Peter Sellers, Alan Arkin and Steve Martin
9. Argentum, the Latin word for silver
10. 1702

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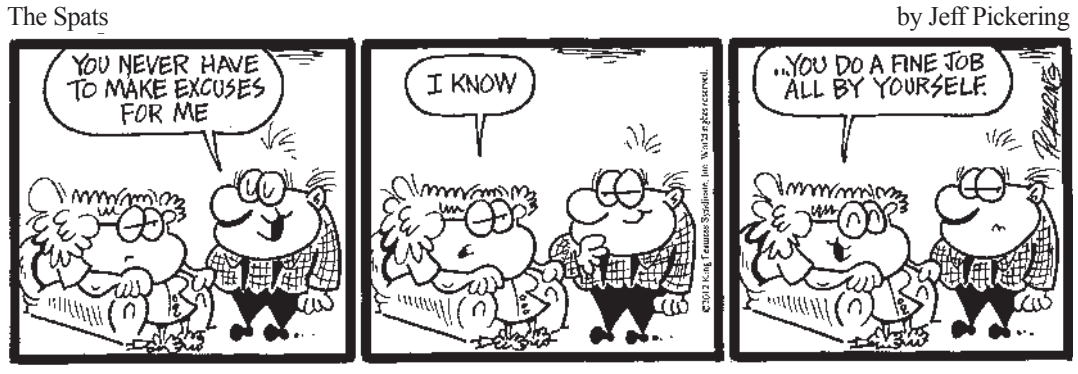
Saturday's Answers

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



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CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

QQ RENT A CAR
Starting as low as... **$29.99** without Insurance
Call: 233-8855, 483-8866 or 233-8866
$100 Security Deposit Required
Garapan • Susupe • San Antonio
Some conditions may apply

QQ CAR RENTAL, SAN ANTONIO
M&J BEAUTY SALON
Massage (60 mins) $15.00
Facial Care for $15.00
Manicure & Pedicure starting at $5.00
In front of PIC Z Bldg. • 10:30am - 9:30pm
Tel #s: 888-1354, 234-8855

Job Vacancy Announcement

(2) Assistant Managers,
(4) Supervisors
At least 5 years experience as Asst. Manager or Supervisor in school Food Service of 250 or more pax. Must have valid HACCP Certification or equivalent Food Safety Training.

(2) Bookkeepers
At least 2 yrs experience in food service business accounting. Knowledgeable in PIII Acctg Inventory & Costing

(2) Stock Clerks
At least 2 yrs experience food service business. Must have knowledge of HACCP Food Industry Safety Procedures

(1) Production Control Coordinator
Must be knowledgeable in setting up computer systems program. Must be HACCP Certified or knowledgeable in Food Safety Industry Grade Process.

(3) Cooks, (4) Assistant Cooks,
(11) Food Prep Workers
At least 2 yrs experience in Volume Food Production of 500 or more pax. Must have knowledge of HACCP food prep procedure & valid BEH certificate

(15) Cafeteria Food Attendants
At least 2 yrs experience in school Food Service of 250 or more pax. Must have knowledge of HACCP procedure in food service & valid BEH certificate

Interested applicants must send resume to **alliedspn@gmail.com or fax to 235-7742 Attn: Catering**

Closing Date: August 27, 2012

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EMPLOYMENT

(3) Child Caregiver. Salary: $ 5.05/hr. Minimum 2 years experience in handling kids and CPR Certified. Fax resume to Sisters Corp. Inc. 233-6828.

(2) Sales Representative (2) Fisherman. Minimum salary. Send resume to SMJ Corporation, P.O.Box 503944 Saipan MP 96950.

REQ DAY CARE
Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) Care Giver
Must have at least 2 years work experience.
Please email resume to reqchildcare@yahoo.com

CLICK IT OR TICKET
DAY & NIGHT

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2010 Honda CR-V LX $15,900.00
Excellent Running Condition
19K Mileage. Pls call 287-4411

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Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated bldg., 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. $450/mo. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $600/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $550. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

SANDY BEACH HOMES Energy efficient 3BR, 2BTH beachfront Chalan Kanoa. Security cams, back-up power/water, washer/dryer in unit, AC, solar water heater. Income eligibility req. apply. $695. 235-7263. www.sandybeachhomes.

Kanoa Resort
Saipan

P.O Box 500369 Saipan MP 96950 • Tel # (670) 234-6601 Fax # (670) 234-8007

(1) MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR

Qualifications: Responsible for efficiently coordinating work with other departments of the organization. Assists the supervising manager with preparation of monthly reports such as utilities consumption and departmental maintenance trouble calls. Prepares the schedule for departmental job orders. Minimum of three (3) years work experience as maintenance coordinator preferably in a hotel. Strong ability to read and follow verbal instructions. Proficient in Microsoft office applications and other software. Must have knowledge in Basic Accounting. Willing to work flexible schedule including weekends and holidays.

Applications can be obtained from Kanoa Resort's security office located on the Hotel's Backside. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than August 23, 2012. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort, is located next to Saipan World Resort Beach Road, Susupe, Saipan, and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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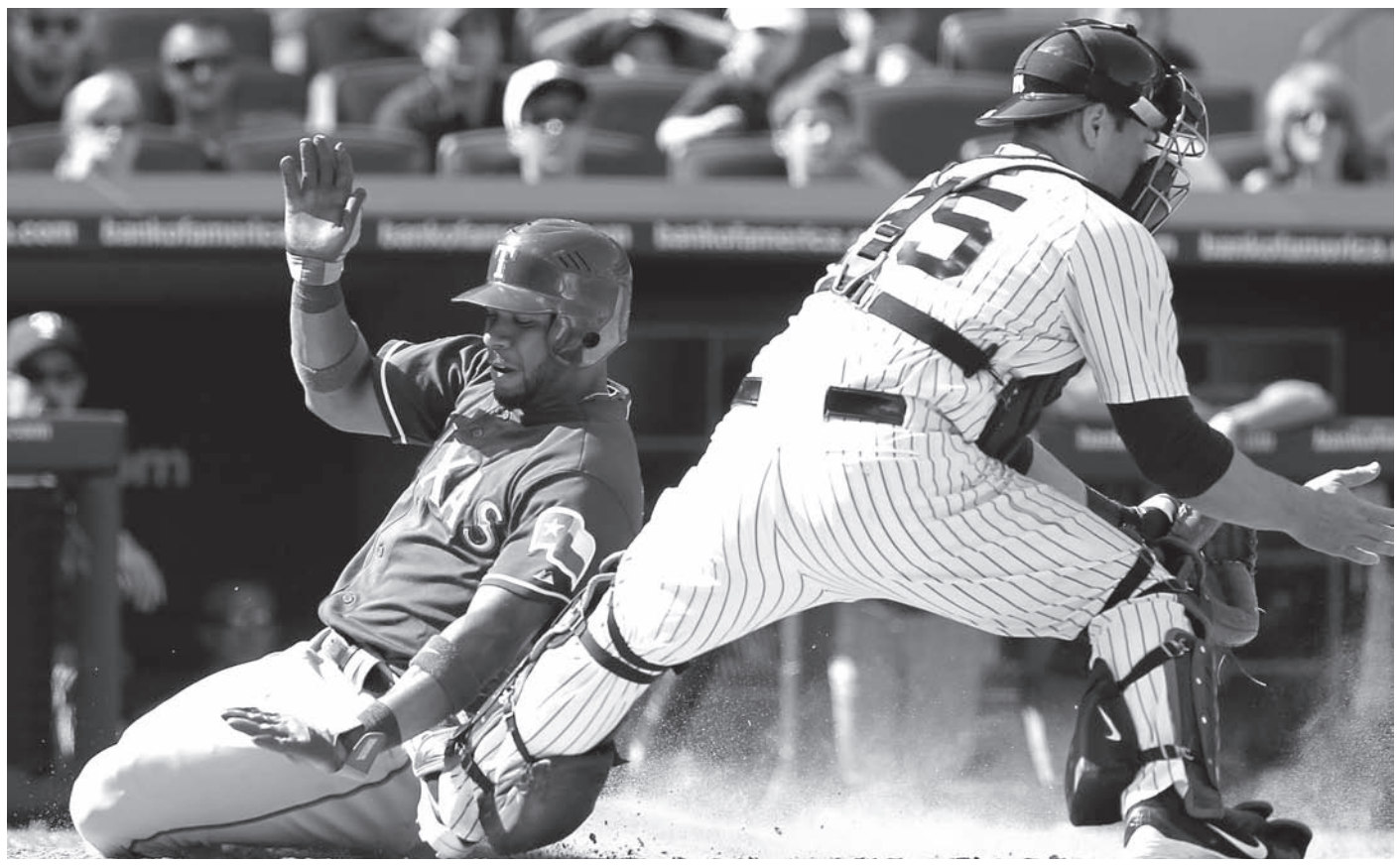
Rangers foil Yankees' bid for 4-game sweep

NEW YORK (AP)—Texas' Craig Gentry, starting for the first time in two weeks, hit a two-out, two-run single in the seventh inning that lifted the Rangers to a 10-6 victory over the New York Yankees on Thursday.

The Rangers avoided a four-game sweep in a matchup of AL division leaders and won for the first time at Yankee Stadium in nine attempts.

The Yankees led 5-4 before the Rangers came back with three runs in the seventh. David Murphy hit a tying RBI double off Boone Logan (4-1) and, after an intentional walk that loaded the bases, Gentry lined a tie-breaking single up the middle.

Texas reliever Tanner Scheppers (1-0) won his first big league decision.



AP

New York Yankees catcher Russell Martin awaits a throw as Texas Rangers' Elvis Andrus slides home with a run from third base on a sacrifice fly hit by Adrian Beltre in the eighth inning of a baseball game at Yankee Stadium in New York, Thursday, Aug, 16, 2012. The Rangers won, 10-6.

Red Sox 6, Orioles 3

In Baltimore, Clay Buchholz shook off a rocky start to earn the win as Boston downed Baltimore.

After giving up six hits over the first two innings, Buchholz (11-3) kept the Orioles at bay, and the Red Sox rebounded from a 3-1 deficit. He allowed three runs in eight innings and struck out seven.

Dustin Pedroia singled in the tiebreaking run in the sixth inning as the Red Sox added three runs in that frame against Luis Ayala (4-4).

White Sox 7, Blue Jays 2

In Toronto, Alex Rios hit a three-run homer against his former team to help Chicago beat Toronto.

Rios' shot was added to by four solo homers as the White Sox matched a season high by going deep five times. The power surge helped the White Sox win their first series in Toronto since 2006.

Chicago starter Francisco Liriano (4-10) allowed three hits with six strikeouts in 6 1-3 innings to win for the first time with his new team since arriving from Minnesota.

Toronto's Aaron Laffey (3-4) allowed three runs in six innings.

Athletics 3, Royals 0

In Kansas City, Luke Hochevar won't see the Oakland Athletics again until 2013, which is none too soon for him.

The right-hander just hasn't found a way to beat the A's.

Hochevar (7-11) gave up three runs and four hits, including home runs to Coco Crisp and Yoenis Cespedes, in seven-plus innings in a 3-0 loss to the A's on Thursday night.

Hochevar is 0-8 with a 6.52 ERA in nine career starts against Oakland. He tries to put that out of his mind.

"It doesn't matter the lineup or what my history is," Hochevar said. "You've got enough to think about out there. I can't be going out and thinking about the history.

Rays 7, Angels 0

In Anaheim, David Price pitched three-hit ball over seven innings for his AL-leading 16th victory and the Tampa Bay Rays got home runs from Evan Longoria, B.J. Upton and Ben Zobrist in a 7-0 victory over the Los Angeles Angels on Thursday night.

Burke Badenhop and Wade Davis each worked one inning in the Rays' third straight shutout against the Angels. The Halos have gone 32 consecutive innings without scoring against a staff that leads the AL in ERA, opponents' batting average and strikeouts.

Price (16-4) struck out eight, walked two and lowered his ERA to 2.39, third in the AL behind the Angels' Jered Weaver and Detroit's Justin Verlander.

Pirates 10, Dodgers 6

In Pittsburgh, Garrett Jones hit two three-run homers to power the Pirates to a 10-6 win over the Los Angeles Dodgers, avoiding a three-game sweep.

Jones had a career-high six RBIs for the Pirates, who had lost six of seven. He homered in the first and fifth for his fifth two-homer game of his career.

Pittsburgh starter A.J. Burnett (15-4) became the first Pirates pitcher this century to notch 15 wins in a season. He allowed seven hits with seven strikeouts.

Mets 8, Red 4

In Cincinnati, rookie Matt Harvey drove in one more run than he allowed as New York snapped Cincinnati's five-game winning streak.

Harvey (2-3), who had lost three straight starts after winning in his major league debut, allowed one run in 7 2-3 innings. He struck out eight, walked one and hit a batter. Harvey doubled in two runs in New York's three-run fourth inning.

Ike Davis and Jason Bay hit solo home runs for the Mets, who capitalized on three errors.

The Reds, who entered with a season-high, seven-game lead in the NL Central, had it cut to six over Pittsburgh.

Cincinnati starter Homer Bailey (10-8) allowed six runs in 5 1-3 innings.

Diamondbacks 2, Cardinals 1

In St. Louis, Paul Goldschmidt and Chris Young homered on consecutive pitches in the ninth inning to lift Arizona over St. Louis.

With St. Louis ahead, Jason Motte (4-4) struck out the first batter in the ninth. Goldschmidt fouled off three full-count pitches, then drove a pitch over center for his 18th home run of the season. Young sent the next pitch over the wall in left.

Diamondbacks reliever David Hernandez (2-2) pitched a perfect eighth, and J.J. Putz finished with a 1-2-3 ninth for the save.

Braves 6, Padres 0

In Atlanta, Chipper Jones homered twice and Kris Medlen pitched a shutout to lead Atlanta over San Diego.

on a night when a big crowd turned out to get his bobblehead, and Atlanta won its 15th straight game with Kris Medlen as a starter.

Jones hit a two-run homer in the first, then added a towering solo shot in the fifth, which was his 2,700th career hit. For the 40-year-old Jones, who is retiring after this season, it was his first multihomer game in more than three years and gave him 12 homers in what is turning out to be quite a farewell season.

Brewers 7, Phillies 4

In Milwaukee, Corey Hart's grand slam in the eighth inning led Milwaukee over Philadelphia.

With two outs in the eighth and no runners on, Rickie Weeks ground to third, but Kevin Frandsen made an errant throw for a two-base error. Josh Lindblom (2-3) replaced Cliff Lee and intentionally walked two batters to load the bases. Hart hit a 2-2 pitch just over the wall in right.

Brewers reliever Livan Hernandez (4-1) pitched a scoreless eighth for the victory. The Phillies loaded the bases in the top of the ninth, but a groundout ended it.

Rockies 5, Marlins 3

In Denver, Michael Cuddyer homered and DJ LeMahieu had two hits for streaking Colorado in the win over Miami.

Adam Ottavino (4-1) picked up the win in relief of starter Alex White as the Rockies won their fourth straight.

Marlins starter Ricky Nolasco (9-12) pitched his first complete game of the season but still lost for the sixth time in seven starts. He allowed five runs in eight innings.

MLB *owners approve sale of Padres*

DENVER (AP)—The O'Malleys are back in the baseball business.

Back in Southern California, too, just down the road in San Diego instead of Los Angeles.

In a quick vote Thursday, Major League Baseball owners approved the sale of the Padres to a group that includes Kevin and Brian O'Malley, the sons of former Dodgers owner Peter O'Malley.

Commissioner Bud Selig announced the endorsement after the conclusion of the owners meetings in Denver.

Under the deal, the group will buy the franchise from owner John Moores for around $800 million. The final closing of the sale will be on or before Aug. 31.

Ron Fowler, a local businessman in San Diego, will become the executive chairman. The new ownership group also consists of Peter and Tom Seidler, the nephews of Peter O'Malley, along with golfer Phil Mickelson.

This is a group of heavy hitters, especially given the pedigree of the O'Malley family. The late Walter O'Malley bought the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1950 and moved them to Los Angeles before the 1958 season.

Peter O'Malley eventually took over for his father and all told under the family's ownership, the Dodgers won six World Series and 13 NL championships before being sold in 1998.

In comparison, the Padres have been to two World Series, losing in 1984 and 1998.

This is an organization once owned by the late Ray Kroc, who helped build McDonald's into a household name, and also Tom Werner, the producer of Roseanne Barr's television show.

However, the franchise is probably better known for wearing distinctive brown-and-gold uniforms decades ago. Some fans are even clamoring to bring those jerseys back.

The ownership group didn't address the uniform issue Thursday.

What they did do is give a vote of confidence to CEO Tom Garfinkel and general manager Josh Byrnes.

"We're looking for a long, consistent ownership group here," Fowler said. "As a San Diegan—I've been there for 30-plus years now—I think it's great for baseball in San Diego, that the O'Malley family and the Seidler family are going to be the owners. I'm looking forward to having some fun over the next five to 10 years."

As for what name this new ownership group may operate under, Peter Seidler smiled and said, "The Padres."

No, really.

"Really, the `Padres Group,'" he said. "We want the attention and spotlight to be on a great product on the field. We're going to be supportive and do everything we can to bring that down to San Diego. We're a bunch of Padres up here."

That's why Selig & Co. were supportive.

"This group knows what it takes to compete," Selig said. "They're very optimistic. I'm optimistic. I've gone over their projections, gone over everything. I think their projections are optimistic, but realistic. This is a good day for baseball.

"I think Padres fans have a right to be very happy today—very happy."

San Diego fans hope a change in owners can energize the Padres, who regularly have had one of baseball's lowest payrolls and have largely struggled since reaching the 1998 World Series. The Padres are 52-67 this season and sit in fourth place in the NL West.

"It's a great day for the Padres. It's a great day for the organization. It's a great day for the city," Padres manager Bud Black said. "I think the Seidler family, the O'Malley family, Ron Fowler, these guys coming on board, it's fantastic.

"It's the start of an era of new ownership, which I think is a very positive thing. It's great."

The agreement with the new group came months after Jeff Moorad's attempt to buy the team on a layaway plan collapsed. Moores' deal with Moorad, who began his attempted purchase of the club in 2009, was valued at about $500 million. Moores' divorce forced him to put the team on the market in 2009.

Pettersson takes 1-shot lead at Wyndham

WYNDHAM CHAMPIONSHIP

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP)—If any member's bounces went Carl Pettersson's way Thursday at Sedgefield Country Club, well, there's a good reason for that.

"That's right—I am a member," Pettersson said, laughing. "I forgot."

Pettersson shot an 8-under 62 to take the first-round lead in the Wyndham Championship.

David Mathis and Tim Clark were a stroke back, Tom Gillis, Scott Stallings and Troy Matteson shot 64, and Matt Every had a 65 in the final event before the FedEx Cup playoffs.

The top of the leaderboard had a decidedly local flavor. Pettersson went to high school in Greensboro and lives in Raleigh, and both he and Clark played at North Carolina State. Mathis grew up in Winston-Salem, played collegiately at Campbell and lives north of Raleigh in the town of Wake Forest.

Pettersson, a Swede who became an American citizen during the offseason, had the best first round of his PGA Tour career and his best round at this event since 2008, when he set the tournament record with a second-round 61 and went on to win in his adopted hometown.

Starting on the back nine, he reeled off consecutive birdies on Nos. 5-8 to move to 8 under. He had a chance to match his record on No. 9, but pushed his 30-foot birdie putt roughly a foot to the right of the hole.

Despite that, it was yet another strong round for Pettersson, who won the RBC Heritage in April and has five top-10 finishes this year. That included a tie for third at the PGA Championship last week—which would have been a second-place finish had he not been assessed a two-stroke penalty in the final round for grazing a leaf with his backswing while hitting out of a lateral water hazard.

"I think this game is very streaky," Pettersson said. "We get on a good run, you've got to keep going and it seems like when you're playing well, you never think you're going to play bad. When you're playing bad, you never think you're going to play well."

Pettersson was part of one of the most closely followed threesomes of the day, joining U.S. Open champ Webb Simpson (Wake Forest) and Davis Love III (North Carolina) as previous winners of this tournament who played for schools in the Atlantic Coast Conference—which was founded here in 1953.

They helped make the first round feel a bit like the ACC tournament.

"Playing with two ACC guys, there's a lot of `Go Pack!' and `Go Heels!'" Simpson said.

Some of those N.C. State cheers could have been saved for Clark, a star with the Wolfpack in the mid-1990s before Pettersson enrolled. He was bogey-free and had an eagle on the par-5 fifth. He landed his second shot roughly 8 feet from the flagstick and sank the ensuing putt for one of the 11 eagles on that hole.

"I've got to keep pace with Carl," Clark said. "When he goes low, he really goes low. If I'm able to hang in there, it's going to be a lot of fun."

Mathis may not have those ties to the ACC, but he did have another reason—aside from the obvious—for wanting to leapfrog Pettersson: They both play the same Hasentree course in north Raleigh.

"Man, I sure would have liked to have clipped him by a shot today," Mathis said, laughing.

That bit of levity masked the sense of urgency he's facing in his final chance to qualify for the playoffs. Mathis, who has just one top-10 finish this year, arrived at No. 136 on the FedEx Cup points list and the top 125 qualify for The Barclays.

Mathis was bogey-free and had three straight birdies on Nos. 13-15 to move to 7 under before closing his round with three pars.

"I tried not to think about it, but it's really difficult not to think about because it's such a big part of the year," Mathis said. "Your life can change really quick in the FedEx Cup if you play well."

AP

Carl Pettersson, of Sweden, hits from a sand trap on the 15th hole during the first round of the Wyndham Championship golf tournament in Greensboro, N.C., Thursday, Aug. 16, 2012.

Rose: Finding out ACL torn was like death

CHICAGO (AP)—Derrick Rose says finding out he had a torn ACL was like death.

The Chicago Bulls' superstar told CSNChicago.com he spent ''the whole time praying'' during the MRI that he wasn't seriously injured even though he heard a pop as he crashed to the court in the playoff opener against the Philadelphia 76ers.

"I remember everything," Rose said. "I remember jumping in the air and coming back down, and just that popping sound. I felt it actually tear when I laid all the way out and it just let go."

When team physician Dr. Brian Cole confirmed the tear, Rose said, ''I couldn't believe it. That's the closest thing to death, the closest to death I've got to right there, where it just seemed like the wind and everything was taken out (of me).''

Other than a brief YouTube video last month, he had said little publicly since the injury. The interview with CSNChicago.com was conducted last month in Los Angeles, where he was working out at the time, and posted Wednesday.

Chicago was wrapping up a 103-91 victory when Rose's left leg buckled as he came to a jump start in the lane. He still went up again and passed to Carlos Boozer before crashing to the court, sending a chill through the arena.

Rose's injury dashed the Bulls' championship hopes after they captured home-court advantage throughout the playoffs, and with Joakim Noah spraining his left ankle later in the series, Chicago bowed out in the first round.

The torn ACL also put the Bulls in a sort of holding pattern as they wait for their superstar point guard to return to form. Rose is expected to miss most of the season and might not rediscover his old explosive form until the following year, assuming he regains it.

"It's been hard, definitely been hard. But I've been all right," Rose told CSNChicago.com. "The injury could have been way worse. You've got some people that probably feel worse than I am, but I know I'm going to be all right. I believe in God, my spirits are up and I believe in myself, and I know I'm going to be back even stronger."

Also on Wednesday, Adidas released a one-minute promotional video documenting Rose's recovery and showing him performing various exercises.

T.O. to play for Seattle in Manning's Denver debut

RENTON, Wash. (AP)—Peyton Manning's debut in Denver won't hog all the attention. Terrell Owens will be taking some himself.

Owens will make his return to the NFL when the Seattle Seahawks play the Broncos on Saturday night. Seattle coach Pete Carroll didn't give specifics on how many snaps Owens will get in the second preseason game for the Seahawks, but he did say it would be early in the game.

''I'm not going to tell you how many plays it will be," Carroll said. ''We'll see how it goes."

Owens joined the Seahawks (No. 22 in the AP Pro32) on Aug. 6 and had just a couple of days of practice before the preseason opener against Tennessee. Carroll said he didn't think it was fair to run Owens out there that quickly, but feels he's ready after two weeks of work.

Owens arrived in camp in excellent shape and has looked impressive at times during practice. But if he's to make the Seahawks' final roster, Owens will need to show in a game that he's fully recovered from a knee injury that kept him out of the NFL for the entire 2011 season.

Saturday against the Broncos will be his first NFL game action since Week 15 of the 2010 season with Cincinnati. Owens went without a catch in that final game against Cleveland.

''He's ready to go," Carroll said. ''He had two good weeks of work, and he came in in great shape so he's ready to go."

The game against Denver will also be the first chance for Carroll to get a look at most of his receivers and try to figure out what has become a jumbled position. The arrival of Owens and Braylon Edwards added to a corps that included Sidney Rice, Doug Baldwin, Golden Tate, Ben Obomanu, Deon Butler and Ricardo Lockette.

Carroll and the Seahawks coaching staff must decide how many of those receivers to keep and whether holding on to veterans Owens and Edwards would trump giving shots to younger players like Butler, Lockette and others.

Additionally, there is the concern about Rice's health. Rice is coming off surgeries on both shoulders over the winter. He was cleared earlier this week for full practice after being stuck in a red no-contact jersey for the first two weeks, but won't play against the Broncos.

Owens has been working at the flanker position in the Seahawks offense behind Rice. Edwards has been mostly with the No. 2 offense at split end behind Tate.

''I like our group a lot, and we've become even more competitive and more experienced with the guys that will come in to add to it," Carroll said. ''We're just going to wait. We don't have to do anything right now. We just keep giving these guys turns in practice and get familiar and comfortable with them and also see them in the games, and add it all up together at the end. It's a really good position group for us right now."

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	70	48	.593	–
Baltimore	64	54	.542	6
Tampa Bay	64	54	.542	6
Boston	58	61	.487	12_
Toronto	55	63	.466	15

Central Division

Chicago	65	52	.556	–
Detroit	63	55	.534	2_
Cleveland	54	64	.458	11_
Kansas City	51	66	.436	14
Minnesota	50	67	.427	15

West Division

Texas	68	49	.581	–
Oakland	62	55	.530	6
Los Angeles	62	57	.521	7
Seattle	55	64	.462	14

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	73	45	.619	–
Atlanta	69	49	.585	4
New York	56	62	.475	17
Philadelphia	54	64	.458	19
Miami	53	66	.445	20_

Central Division

Cincinnati	71	47	.602	–
Pittsburgh	65	53	.551	6
St. Louis	64	54	.542	7
Milwaukee	53	64	.453	17_
Chicago	46	70	.397	24
Houston	39	80	.328	32_

West Division

Los Angeles	65	54	.546	–
San Francisco	64	54	.542	_
Arizona	59	59	.500	5_
San Diego	52	68	.433	13_
Colorado	45	71	.388	18_

PGA WYNDHAM CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

GREENSBORO, North Carolina (AP)– Scores from Thursday's play at the Wyndham Championship, played at the 7,117-yard, par-70 Sedgefield Country Club.

FIRST ROUND

Carl Pettersson	31-31_62
David Mathis	31-32_63
Tim Clark	32-31_63
Tom Gillis	32-32_64
Scott Stallings	34-30_64
Troy Matteson	32-32_64
Matt Every	33-32_65
Chris Kirk	33-33_66
Webb Simpson	33-33_66
Gary Woodland	34-32_66
Bud Cauley	32-34_66
Tommy Gainey	31-35_66
Arjun Atwal	32-34_66
Nick Watney	32-34_66
Jimmy Walker	34-32_66
John Merrick	32-34_66
Harris English	32-34_66
Richard H. Lee	32-34_66
Jason Kokrak	33-33_66
Gavin Coles	34-33_67
Trevor Immelman	34-33_67
Angel Cabrera	34-33_67
Davis Love III	32-35_67
Charles Howell III	34-33_67
Y.E. Yang	35-32_67
Ryuji Imada	34-33_67
Nicolas Colsaerts	34-33_67
Kyle Reifers	33-34_67
Josh Teater	35-32_67
Chez Reavie	35-32_67
Brandt Snedeker	33-34_67
Charl Schwartzel	34-33_67
Sergio Garcia	32-35_67
Bryce Molder	34-33_67
Stuart Appleby	31-36_67
Gary Christian	33-34_67
Colt Knost	33-34_67
Blake Adams	34-33_67
Matt Jones	33-35_68
Chris Stroud	32-36_68
Henrik Stenson	34-34_68
Heath Slocum	34-34_68
Brendon de Jonge	34-34_68
Nick O'Hern	33-35_68
Kevin Kisner	34-34_68
Chesson Hadley	34-34_68
Russell Knox	36-32_68
Kevin Streelman	34-34_68
Justin Leonard	33-35_68
Jason Dufner	33-35_68
Bill Haas	34-34_68
D.A. Points	34-34_68
Rory Sabbatini	34-34_68
Lucas Glover	34-34_68
Paul Casey	32-36_68
Rod Pampling	32-36_68
Jeff Maggert	33-35_68
Jamie Donaldson	32-36_68
Alexandre Rocha	35-33_68
Brian Harman	32-37_69
Nathan Green	33-36_69
Derek Lamely	32-37_69
Michael Bradley	33-36_69
John Huh	37-32_69
Bill Lunde	34-35_69
Billy Horschel	33-36_69
Will Claxton	37-32_69
Ryo Ishikawa	35-34_69
Brendon Todd	33-36_69
Bobby Gates	33-36_69
Chris DiMarco	36-33_69
Robert Karlsson	33-36_69
Jeff Overton	34-35_69
Graham DeLaet	34-35_69
Dicky Pride	34-35_69
Billy Mayfair	34-35_69
Kyle Thompson	35-34_69
Steven Bowditch	33-36_69
Garth Mulroy	34-35_69
Vaughn Taylor	33-37_70
Daniel Summerhays	33-37_70
Chris Couch	36-34_70
Brian Gay	35-35_70
Rocco Mediate	34-36_70
Jason Bohn	36-34_70
Tom Pernice Jr.	34-36_70
Kevin Chappell	36-34_70
Charlie Beljan	36-34_70
Ken Duke	34-36_70
Bob Estes	35-35_70
Todd Hamilton	35-35_70
Scott Dunlap	34-36_70
Charley Hoffman	33-37_70
Boo Weekley	35-35_70
Andres Romero	35-35_70
J.B. Holmes	33-37_70
Roland Thatcher	35-35_70
Patrick Cantlay	35-35_70
Matthew NeSmith	35-35_70
Martin Flores	35-36_71
Roberto Castro	36-35_71
John Rollins	35-36_71
Jhonattan Vegas	36-35_71
Brian Davis	36-35_71
Ryan Moore	36-35_71
Dean Wilson	36-35_71
Erik Compton	35-36_71
Billy Hurley III	35-36_71
Danny Lee	35-36_71
Daniel Chopra	35-36_71
Chad Campbell	36-35_71
Harrison Frazar	37-34_71
Hank Kuehne	35-36_71
Troy Kelly	36-35_71
David Sanchez	34-37_71
William McGirt	32-40_72
John Daly	36-36_72
Brendan Steele	34-38_72
D.J. Trahan	34-38_72
Charlie Wi	36-36_72
Jonas Blixt	36-36_72
Ben Kohles	35-37_72
Mark Anderson	33-39_72
Matt Bettencourt	33-39_72
Jerry Kelly	34-38_72
Camilo Villegas	36-36_72
Greg Owen	35-37_72
Stephen Gangluff	33-39_72
Peter Tomasulo	35-37_72
Miguel Angel Carballo	37-35_72
Savio Nazareth	35-37_72
Patrick Sheehan	39-34_73
Kevin Stadler	36-37_73
Cameron Beckman	38-35_73
George McNeill	36-37_73
Robert Allenby	36-37_73
Mathew Goggin	36-37_73
Tyler Rody	36-37_73
J.J. Killeen	36-37_73
Neal Lancaster	35-38_73
James Driscoll	34-39_73
David Hearn	38-36_74
Joey Snyder III	38-36_74
Ricky Barnes	35-39_74
John Mallinger	37-37_74
Vaita Guillaume	36-38_74
David Toms	33-41_74
David Duval	36-38_74
Steve Wheatcroft	36-38_74
Gus Ulrich	36-38_74
Edward Loar	36-38_74
Tommy Biershenk	37-37_74
Marco Dawson	33-42_75
Scott Brown	37-38_75
Tim Herron	41-35_76
Sung Kang	41-39_80

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Two-way tie for Ladies lead in SEDA league

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Defending champion Jonny's Bar & Grill's Try Luck and Es'y Kitchen's B-52 Shooters are knotted up atop the Ladies division of the Saipan Electronic Dart Association's Summer/Fall Bud Light Dart League after last Wednesday's weekly pairings.

Try Luck trumped former division leader Bammy's Restaurant & Bar's Momes'I Mei (30-15) at home, 10-5, while the B-52 Shooters posted an 11-4 home rout over Naked Fish Bar & Grill's Man-Amigas (19-26) to force some friction in the standings. Try Luck and B-52 Shooters hold similar 31-14 records.

SOS's Wonder Women (211-24) rest in the fourth spot after brushing off Joe's Steakhouse's Daffodils (12-33), 105, on the road, and Joe's Just Like Dat (19-26) defeated Oceanside's G-Side (17-28), 9-6, also in a road match.

Notables include a high-in by Try Luck's Rita Fitial.

In other standings, Oceanside Bar & Grill's Mafia, SOS Bar & Grill's DPS Bad Boyz, and Ocean Side Bar & Grill's Triple Threat front their respective divisions.

Mafia had the night off on Wednesday, but its 25-9 record leaves the team in control in the A division. The Bud Brothers (26-22) fell to the fifth-ranked Sand's Bar's Juvy Predators (15-19), 7-8, but remain in second place, ahead of SOS-duo 101 Proofers (26-25) and MIxblood Shooters (25-26).

In other results, 101 Proofers bested little brother Outlawz (11-23), 10-7, in a road draw, while Mixblood Shooters pounced Bammy's Sabalu Boys (22-29), 11-6 at home. Notables include a 122 high-in by Bud Brothers' Eric Pascual and a 131 high-out by 101 Proofers' Rolly Bermiso.

The DPS Bad Boyz also had a bye last week, however the current standings show the team atop the Inter-Government standings with its 9-6 card.

Second place Naked Fish's CRMO Primos (17-13) bested NMC Proa (4-11), 11-4, in a road draw, while Jonny's Sakude III (8-7) is positioned in third place ahead of Bammy's Team CUC (7-6) and NMC Proa.

Notables include a 113 high-out by CRMO Primos' Jayson John, who is coincidentally the highest ranked player in the individual statistics, besting 21 others.

In the Tuesday B, Triple Threat overwhelmed sister-team Good Guys (14-31), 12-3, in a road draw to keep the lead and improve to a 34-11 slate. Two games back comes Naked Fish's Na'Gupu II (32-13), which routed SOS's fourth place Dartaholiks (26-19), 11-4, at home.

VFW Post 3457'Delubyo (31-14) resides at third after rolling over Oceanside's Wreckless Precision (7-38), 11-4, on the road, while the Seabridge's 80 Proofers (23-22) edged The Waterfront's K-1 Scorpions (13-32), 8-7, at home. Notables include a 140 high-in by Triple Threat's Clifford Hamoy and a 100 high-out by another Triple Threat bet, George Medina.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Naked Fish Bar & Grill's Na'Gupu II players pose for a photo before their Tuesday B match in the SEDA league last week.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Jonny's Bar & Grill's Try Luck members pose for a group photo before their SEDA Ladies division game last week.

BREWERS

From Page 24

start of the seventh and called Vince Cepeda to the mound. Cepeda kept IT&E at bay until the last inning of regulation.

A leadoff walk quickly turned into bases loaded with zero outs for IT&E and a big error at first base almost forced a deciding Game 3. The Brewers' Cepeda came back with a strikeout with ducks on the pond, but a wild pitch enabled the first runner to cross the plate.

Then the error at third base tied the game, 7-7, and the IT&E-Shell Fielders perhaps should have left the winning run at third base with just one out. However the tail runner was sent home during the commotion and was instead picked off at the plate by a mile by right fielder Darren Pua, who charged in to assist with the error. A routine grounder to second base that ended the inning would have likely been a walk-off.

In the first extra inning, both teams came up empty before the Brewers uncorked a seven-run tear in the top of the 11th inning.

IT&E came out deflated in the 11th and struggled in throwing strikes and making plays. The Brewers first seven batters all reached and scored off just two hits and to make matters worse for the IT&E-Shell Fielders, rain engulfed the field even before the latter had their turn at bat. The Fielders were just one out from ending the top of the 11th when rain poured.

ZHAILA'S

From Page 24

lem, Jaymark De Guzman, and Nicko Salem combining for 27 markers in the recovery.

Ajoste and Jason Bahillo, who had only two field goals in the third-quarter meltdown, still struggled in the fourth and Zhaila's needed another player to step up and save the team from collapsing. Jason's older brother, Jeff heeded to the call for help, firing 8 of his 11 points in the fourth quarter to bring the lead back to Zhaila's.

With Jeff Bahillo finding his marks in the fourth canto, Zhaila's turned the tables on San Antonio in scoring, 22-12, to save a 5-point win.

Ajoste top-scored for Zhaila's with his 21 points, adding 4 in the fourth, while Jason Bahillo finished with 18, making one of last free throws that sealed their win. Roger Hernandez canned the two other crucial charities.

Nevin Salem paced San Antonio with his 19 markers and he was the lone player on his team to score more than one field goal in the fourth canto. Adrian Palacios was only the second San Antonio player to break in double figures with his 10 points, but was silent in the fourth. De Guzman and Alegre combined for 15 points for San Antonio, which played against Zhaila's sans Melvin Cadiang.

Meanwhile, Freestyl won the second game of the night via forfeit against Docomo/Yuichiro Printing.

Zhaila's All Starz 78 – Ajoste 21, Ja. Bahillo 18, Jef. Bahillo 11, Chan 8, Sula 8, Hernandez 5, Tudela 2.

Brgy. San Antonio 73 – Ne. Salem 19, Palacios 10, De Guzman 8, Alegre 7, Ni. Salem 6, Aranda 5, Tabora 5, Saturno 2.

Scoring by quarters: 21-17, 40-32, 56-61, 78-73.

SUFA

From Page 24

low a double-elimination format with one-modified coed rule, which stipulates that at least two female players must remain both in the lineup and out on the field at all times. Prizes are up for grabs, but are still being determined.

Proceeds in the competition will go toward the SUFA's fifth appearance in the highly anticipated 8th Annual CNMI Labor Day Softball Tournament, which will be held this year for the second time in Boise, Idaho, on Sept. 3

SUFA is a non-profit organization that raises its own funds every year to represent the CNMI in the popular Labor Day event held in the US mainland. SUFA translates into "pushing or hitting" something.

Teams from Saipan, Idaho, California, Washington, Hawaii, Arizona, and Nevada have all appeared in Labor Day Tournament, which was also hosted in Las Vegas, Seattle, San Diego, and Portland in past years.

Pac-Chain topped 20 other teams in last year's Labor Day competition held in Portland, Oregon.

Contact Joe Flores at 483-7848 or SUFA Secretary Alfreda Camacho 287-3818 at or teamsufa@gmail.com for more information.

SHIRLEY'S

From Page 24

from 6pm to 10pm, while Sunday's games is set from 5pm to 10pm and the Aug. 25 opening ceremony will start at 5pm.

Players will be competing in the men's and women's Class A, B, and C singles and the men's and women's doubles in all three classifications. Organizers will only accept the first 10 players to register in the men's and women's A and C singles and 12 in the B division. For the doubles, 8 pairs are allowed in the men's A and C and 10 in the B, while in the women's doubles, the maximum entries are 8 for A, 10 for B, and 6 for C.

Tournament committee members are in charge of the players' classification and individuals who want to play outside their group will be allowed only if the allotted slots are left unfilled. Registration is ongoing and will run only until Aug. 22. Entrance fee is $25 and $5 for additional category.

Format for the elimination round will be determined once all registration forms are turned in, but for the playoffs, only the Top 4 teams will advance. In the doubles category, players teaming up should come from the same club.

Last year, Shirley's hosted a mixed doubles competition with Saipan Badminton Club sweeping four categories. Kim Boranah and Joel Ortega ruled the mixed doubles C, Dick Guintu and Hannai Choi won the A division, Gary Bandoja and Choi topped the AB class, and Heo In Sook and Bandoja reigned in the B category.

This year's Shirley's tournament is sanctioned by Northern Marianas Badminton Association and is the latter's third event for the 2012 season. NMBA kicked off the year with the staging of the 2012 Tan Holdings Doubles Badminton Competition in February and the 2012 IT&E Singles & Mixed Doubles Badminton Tournament was held next in June.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Brewers advance to SML finals

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter-sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Tan Holdings Brewers clinched the first finals berth in the 2012 Saipan Major League Baseball after escaping with a 14-7 win over the hard-luck IT&E-Shell Fielders in the rained-out Game 2 of their semis series last Thursday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Coming into Thursday's game, the pennant champion Brewers held a 1-0 advantage in the best-of-three semis series and were issued the early win at the top of the 11th inning, as heavy rain forced the cancellation of the last inning. The IT&E-Shell Fielders, who bungled a chance to win Game 2 in regulation, conceded the victory after the umpires had a discussion with the respective team managers.

With the series sweep, the Brewers, who recovered from a 1-5 deficit to eke out an 8-6 victory in Game 1, will have to wait for their finals foe, which will be either the defending champion St. Michael's Medical Response Angels or the second ranked-Saipan Stevedore Company Yankees. The Yankees are ahead in the short series, 1-0, and were battling the Angels in last night's Game 2.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

The Tan Holdings Brewers' Byron Kaipat rears back for a swing during Game 2 of their semis series against the IT&E-Shell Fielders last Thursday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Game 2 of the Brewers-Fielders duel had the former's Darren Pua opening with a triple and was grounded in by Clifton Silil in the first inning. The Brewers then spurted ahead in the second frame, 3-0, as Mike Pangelinan and Oliver Secharmedal both made it around off errors.

Brewers' Byron Kaipat drove in Roy Celis in the fourth inning, as their pitcher Tom Camacho kept IT&E-Shell in check for the first five innings.

The third time was a charm for IT&E-Shell, which finally figured Camacho out during its third rotation and managed to snag the lead, 5-4. After going three up and three down four times earlier in the game, IT&E-Shell bashed six hits in the top of the sixth inning, as it went through the lineup. Wenser Namelo bagged an RBI single, Eldred Sanchez provided a two-RBI base knock, and the other runs came off the Brewers errors.

The Brewers then reclaimed the lead, 7-5, in the bottom half of the sixth, primarily from back-to-back doubles by Manny Sablan and Kaipat, who made it home off an error.

The Brewers tapped Camacho at the

See BREWERS on Page 23

Zhaila's All Starz hands San Antonio first loss

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Zhaila's All Starz won the battle of the "south sides," outclassing Brgy. San Antonio, 78-73, in the lone game played in the rain-hampered 2012 DLX/Gualo Rai Invitational Basketball League last Thursday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

The win and the game was only the first for Zhaila's, as its first two matches were suspended due to rain, while San Antonio absorbed its first loss after going 2-0. Zhaila's suited up in its first game with the core of the runner-up Team Pogi and former Saipan Southern High School and Southern Sonics players on its roster. San Antonio is also bannered by the younger generation of Sonics and Manta Rays mainstays.

Zhaila's All Starz controlled the first half of the match that resumed the action in the DLX caging after games last Tuesday and Wednesday's were rained-out, lost the lead in the third, but regained its composure in the payoff canto to thwart San Antonio.

Jason Bahillo and Brian Ajoste teamed up for 13 points in the opening quarter to lift Zhaila's All Starz to a 21-17 lead. Ajoste scored Zhaila's first four points, while Ajoste drilled the last five and they continued to lead their team in the second canto to stretch the advantage to 8 at halftime, 40-32. Ajosted sizzled for 10 more markers in the second frame, which Jason Bahillo closed out with his five straight points.

Jeff Bahillo, seen here going for a layup for Team Pogi in last June's DLX caging, scored 11 points in Zhaila's All Starz' 78-73 victory over Brgy. San Antonio last Thursday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Ajoste also drained the first basket for Zhaila's in the second half, but that was his lone field goal in the third where San Antonio launched a comeback and stole the lead, 61-56. San Antonio outgunned Zhaila's in the third, 29-16, with Bryl Alegre, Nevin Sa-

See ZHAILA'S on Page 23

Shirley's badminton tourney opens Aug. 25

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 2012 Shirley's Coffee Shop Singles/Doubles Badminton Tournament will kick off next Sunday at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai.

This year's Shirley's tournament will run until Sept. 3 with games to be played during weekends. Friday and Saturday's matches will be held

See SHIRLEY'S on Page 23

Aries Cordero is seen here going for a return during the IT&E badminton tournament at the TSL Sports Complex in June. Badminton games at the Gualo Rai facility resumes next week with the staging of the 2012 Shirley's Coffee Shop Singles/Doubles Badminton Tournament.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

SUFA softball tourney this weekend

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter-sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The SUFA Softball Association is holding its final fundraising softball tournament this weekend at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

SUFA members would like to thank Team Achu, Team Chagi, the Warriors, Team 2012, Team Whatever, Crispy Pata, Berdax and the Defenders for participating in the group's last event. SUFA also would like to recognize the fundraiser's sponsors, supporters, and fans, and the Department of Community & Cultural Affairs' Department of Parks & Recreation.

This weekend's tournament will fol-

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